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Bomb factory uncovered 'just hours before attack'

The IRA was only "hours away" from an attack which could have caused serious loss of life when anti-terrorist officers found their bomb factory, police said yesterday.

John Grieve, commander of the anti-terrorist squad, said eary morning raids on addresses in south London recovered

and false identities for the bombers who intended to strike at the capital's power supplies. The targets included utilities, such as gas, electricity and water works. He described the raids as "a significant success against Irish Republican Army terrorism".

He added: "I believe that we were only a few hours away from grave loss of life and serious disruption to the ways of life of the capital and the South-east." The squad was backed by armed police and special branch for the operation which began at 2.30am when CS pellets were fired into a house in Tooting to disable those inside.

Neighbours reported the sound of gunfire but police said this was from the CS canisters. Three of those arrested are believed to have undergone hospital checks but no firearms

Seven men, some from Northern Ireland, were taken from addresses in Tooting and Peckham and were being held last night under the Prevention of Terrorism Act,

Police recovered 36 bomb timers at one of the addresses and, Mr Grieve said: "It suggests that there were to be a whole series of attacks over quite a period of time." No explosives

were found but police were ed by police on the British continuing a search of both addresses last night and concrete-breaking equipment was brought into an address in Peckham to dig in the cellar. Two other addresses, one in Wandsworth and another in

London, were also visited but no arrests were made. Yesterday's raids uncovered the second bomb factory locat-

Southfields, both south-west

mainland since the IRA ceasefire ended with the Docklands

bombing in February. The first cache was discovered when detectives found 15kg of Semtex explosive and other bomb-making equipment at a house in Lewisham, south London, after Edward O'Brien. 21, blew himself up on his way to plant a bomb in central Lon-

don shortly after the Dock-

A film reward was offered for information leading to the conviction of those responsible and a further £1m reward is on offer for information on the

Manchester bombing.
Commander Grieve appealed for information from people in the motor trade, particularly those dealing in cash. "We only get to where we get to with the help of the people

of London and everyone else in the UK because it's the communities that defeat terrorism and the information they contact us with is what helps us win," he said.

Police believe they have found the getaway car for the Manchester bombing. A red Ford Granada, sold three months ago in London to a man with an Irish accent, was found in Preston, Lancs.

Major in mental health rethink

Exclusive

NICHOLAS TIMMINS Public Policy Editor

Following a series of high-profile attacks by mentally ill people. John Major has admitted that too many asylums may have been closed and has ordered a study of whether new mental health authorities should be created to control all

spending on the mentally ill. The Prime Minister believes that existing policies are "not working as well as they should? and have led to a "growing pub-lic fear of the mentally ill".

And while the policy of closing the old Victorian asylums is "clearly right" the hospital clo-consideration. sure programme "may have gone too far", Downing Street says, with too few replacement places available in 24-hour staffed accommodation to care for those who could be a risk to

themselves or others. The Prime Minister's concern was expressed in a letter from 10 Downing Street to Stephen Dorrell, the Secretary of State for Health earlier this year. It appears to have followed a number of high profile murders by former psychiatric patients. They included the case of Wayne Hutchinson who killed two people and injured three in a six-day period, and that of Martin Mursell who murdered his stepfather and almost killed his mother in a frenzied knife attack.

It also reflects reports from the Royal College of Psychiatrists that bed occupancy rates are running at over 100 per cent, with the beds of patients out on leave immediately filled by others. This forces too early discharge to the community.

The letter has produced a review of the way mental illness is funded across the health and social services divide. But it may also strengthen Mr Dorrell's hand in this year's public spending round. In February, the health secretary announced a programme to provide 5,000 places for the "new" long-stay mentally ill by providing, in effect, new small-scale asylums in 24-hour nursed accommodation. He was, however, able to provide little extra cash to fund or run the 400-plus homes

needed. Mr Major, however, has made clear his belief that some patients "want and require" a higher level of care and of "genuine asylum" than the community can easily provide - but avoid the conclusion that an elthere appears to be a shortage of the necessary 24-hour su-

pervised accommodation. The letter identifies "poor coordination" between health and social services as a key barrier

to delivering good quality services and says the Prime Minister "is attracted to the idea of creating separate mental health authorities who would control all mental health spending".
The Department of Health

yesterday confirmed that a report on "removing obstacles" that prevented health and social services working together has been commissioned and is due to go to Mr Dorrell at the end of this month. A spokesman was reluctant to confirm that it included the option of creating new mental health authorities but psychiatrists and managers whom the department's review team consulted have confirmed that the idea is under

John Bowis, the Health Minister, has visited Kirklees where the health and local authority social services have already created a separate fund run by a joint management board to hav 'seamless" care for the mentally ill - an approach Mr Bowis has been commending to others. Philip Cotterill, Kirklees's chief social services officer, said he was personally against creating a new authority but that it was clear the idea was under consideration as one of "a whole range of options".

Dame Fiona Caldicott, immediate past-president of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, said there was a good case for the move. Although Mr Dorrell has given mental health high priority since he took over, she said, its share of NHS expenditure had declined in recent years. A separate authority would help ensure that funds for the mentally ill were not diverted into more glamorous NHS causes "as has happened often over the years". And while joint working with social services had worked well in some places, it depended on local councillors seeing mental

illness as a high priority. In Northern Ireland, health and social services have long been run as one body. Making the change in England, how-ever, would involve taking cash not just from the NHS but from local government which would be likely to resist the idea.

Dame Fiona said Mr Dorrell's plans for new asvlumstyle homes were welcome. But she warned that "in many places it is going to need additional money if it is going to happen".

The department's own study of the idea warned "it is hard to ement of pump priming will greatly facilitate the transition". The department puts the cost of homes between £275m and £400m to build, with running costs of more than £175m a year.



Clasic achievement: The restored Temple of Concord and Victory, at Stowe. Buckinghamshire

Photograph: Brian Harris

Nothing horrid has ever happened to us before. No tragedy has touched us'

MAXINE FRITH, PA NEWS

A deeply emotional Shaun Rus-sell husband of Lin Russell, who was last week found bludgeoned to death beside her sixyear-old daughter, Megan, told yesterday how his family's "idyllic" life had been destroyed.

Shaking as he frequently broke down in tears. Dr Russell, 44, talked of the brutal murders and the permanent injuries suffered by his other daughter Josephine. 9, who was left unconscious as she walked home from school with ber mother and sister last Tuesday.

Police are still hunting the person who battered 45-year-old Lin and her daughters in a frenzied hammer attack in woods close to their home in Nonington, near Canterbury, Kent

Dr Russell, who lectures in nature conservation at Kent University, said: "I swing between periods of complete desolation, but most of all I am thinking about Josephine. I want to get her over all of this as soon as possible.

hourly. Every time I go to see her site is a link better. The doc-



Russell, in constant fear

tors tell me she is physically fairly okay. She is off the ventilator. She has got various signs of impairment to her mobility, but I can't tell how bad that

will be yet. "She is awake and she can focus on me. She knows who I am, but she can't talk at the moment. She doesn't yet know that her mother and sister are dead. I can't bring myself to tell

The family moved to the "She is improving almost Kent village from North Wales last year and Dr Russell said; "To some it was the idyllic life

Living in a beautiful little list- was born, and Namibia for two ed cottage in the country. Lin had dedicated herself to building up the garden. There were the ponies, the cats, the dogs, walking the dogs in the coun-

The girls were very much country children. They grew up in South Africa and they were both little tom-boys. They never needed television or many toys. They had their own amusements. "The best thing that the per-

son who did this can do for everybody's sake, even for his own sake, is to come forward. I fear for the safety of everybody who he is near. Any animals who he is near. He killed my dog as well as my wife and child."

Dr Russell revealed that a week before the tragedy, a thief stole a plant pot from the family's garden. "It was the first time we had talked about any possible safety problems," he told a press conference. "I said that maybe Lin shouldn't go shopping every Tuesday and that we deter anybody from stealing

from us again. Africa for 15 years, where Josie and the trees and the garden

years, where Megan was born, and we had never had any

problems there. "Nothing horrid has ever happened to our family before. We have led unusual and exciting lives, we have never had anything tragic touch us. A dog dying is probably the most tragic thing we have had to

Mrs Russell and her daughter would be buried in the countryside of north Wales which they loved so much, said Dr Russell, Clutching the hand of a police liaison officer, he explained: "It's what Lin would have wanted, it's what Megan would have wanted and and it is what me and all my family

Of Josie, Dr Russell added: "She may be able to sketch the man we are looking for. She is a very good drawer, she gets that from me, but I don't relish the thought of having to go through

that with her. "I don't know whether I will should vary our movements to be able to stay in Kent. It's a very idyllic part of Britain. But I returned to my house for the "We had lived in South first time last night and the lanes

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QUICKLY

New pay for services Defence chiefs are planning to introduce performance related pay into the armed services. The reduction in size of the forces means that there is now less

Space bug threat

A group of scientists are concerned that space emeditions run the risk of bringing deadly micro-organisms back to Earth. as is depicted in the novel The chance of promotion. Page 4 Andromeda Strain. Page 5 tested electron

Mears loses narrowly Martin Mears was last night narrowly defeated by Tony Girling in his bid to retain the leadership of the Law Society in the second consecutive con-

COMMENT 13-15 CROSSWORD24 LAW REPORT LEADER AND LETTERS 10 DEITUARIES

CONTENTS

A day in the High Court: Love, race,

Jack O'Sullivan

As a cricketer, Imran Khan recognised the grandeur of the Royal Courts of Justice yesterday. A six. struck well at the entrance of its Great Hall, would still have fallen short of Queen Victoria's bust at the other end of what is a Gothic cathedral. "Massive, awesome," said Pakistan's former skipper as he stood in

its midst, with his wife, Jemima, a few paces behind. (A deference that caused apoplexy among photographers outside, who were trying to capture the gilded couple together).

"I've never been in court before," said Khan, there to defend himself against charges that he has libelled England's finest, Ian Botham and Alan Lamb.

Away from this battle of cricketing

ing sought. As Jemima glided into night." As George Carman QC flirt- ford University, his alma mater. But Court 19 in her blue kaftan dress ed with the jury on £500-plus per they are quite different from the with kitten-heeled open sandals, hour in the Imran Khan case, Mr Alan Bell was in Court 52, seeking Bell sought some restoration of six Old Bailey, only 15 minutes' walk compensation from Camden Conn- years' wages, worth £250 a week. Were away, which reeks of prosecution and cil. A former postman, Mr Bell, 62, fell down some steps during his deliveries in 1989. He has hardly worked since, due to a back injury.

the steps slippery and dangerous? Mr Bell will hear tomorrow what the judge thinks.

These Royal Courts are no ordi-"I don't sleep with the wife anymore, nary court buildings. They may have

squat, forbidding fortress of the persecution. The Great Hall, opened in 1882, with its vaulted roof in white stone, stained glass windows, marble floors and uplifting arches produces a solemnity more in praise of and appeal court system.

goliaths, a different justice was bebecause I always wake up in the recalled for Khan the elegance of OxGod than law. The "daily cause" list looks at first more a petition for lost souls than a catalogue of accusation.

The judges' entrance is a more honest representation of true purpose. Over it are a stone cat and dog representing litigants in court. And yesterday saw all of human life laid bare - pettiness alongside life and death - at the apex of Britain's civil

Fugitive Baron's dissolute lifestyle to be kept secret

Queen's Proctor v Moynihan

The colourful life and nefarious times of the late Third Baron Movnihan will remain shielded from the public eye after a High Court judge yesterday invoked a 1926 Act designed to protect the populace from moral outrage. The ruling was made at the opening of a hearing to settle competing claims to the title of the peer, who died from a stroke in 1991 while running a string of lucratice brothels in the Philippines.

Two boys, aged seven and five, whose Filipino mothers claim they were Lord Moyni-han's fourth and fifth wives, are laving claim to the title.

Colin Moynihan, 40, the former Conservative sports minister, also has an interest in the outcome of the hearing, because as the half brother of the late lord, he also has a claim. Mr Moynihan wants to stand as an MP again, having lost his Lewisham seat in the 1992 General Election, but cannot offer himself as a candidate for any sent because, if he does become the Fourth Baron Moynihan, he will be elevated to the House of Lords and there

would have to be a by-election. The case had promised an inThird Baron Moynihan of Leeds, who fled to Manila in 1970 to evade a string of arrest warrants over gambling debts

and assorted fraud allegations. It was known he lived life to the full, building up a £3m for-tune from his involvement in the sex industry, and earning himself the nickname of the "Ermine Pimpernel".

But the Queen's Proctor has stepped into the case to challenge the legality of Lord Movnihan's divorce from his fourth wife. Editha. 35, who claims that her signatures on the court papers were forgeries.

This means that the hearing hecomes, in effect, a contested divorce case, and Sir Stephen Brown. President of the Fami-Division, ruled that the Judicial Proceedings Act must apply, and that reporting is strictly limited to names and charges until the judge gives his ruling at the end of the hearing.

Lord Meston QC, representing the Queen's Proctor, told the judge that the decrees nisi and absolute, granted to Lord Movnihan by Tunbridge Wells County Court in 1990, were void.

It follows that Lord Moynihan's marriage to his fifth wife. former belly-dancer Jinna, now 31, was also void because it was bigamous, and their son, sight into the colourful antics of Daniel, aged five, is illegiti-Anthony Patrick Andrew mate and therefore does not



Colin Moynihan: Half broth-

is also known, however, that DNA tests on Editha's son, Andrew, and samples left by the late lord show that he could not have been the father.

If both the sons of Lord Moynihan's oriental wives are ruled out, Mr Colin Moynihan will become the Fourth Lord Moynihan of Leeds and will have to set his political sights on a career in the House of Lords.

Lord Moynihan's fortune in the Philippines (he left Britain with virtually nothing) will not be settled at this hearing, but is expected to go to one of the battling wives in Manila.

But details of the High Court

Stephen Brown gives his judgment at the end of the hearing which is expected to last 10 days. Although the judge ruled that the case came under the Ju-

dicial Proceedings Act, the At-torney General's office later agreed that details of the opening could be published. He had told the court how Lord Moynihan fled from Britain facing 57 criminal and fraud charges and in March, 1970 made an announcement in

the Times newspaper that he would never return to the UK. He said that the first of "a number of remarkable documents" was a marriage certificate in the name of Colin Moynihan, signed in the Philipines, and a woman said to have been the peer's fifth wife, Jinna. Lord Meston said that Lord Moynihan did use the name "Colin" and also had various

different names. When the divorce papers were lodged at Tunbridge Wells County Court, the Manila address of Editha, the respondent, was given as Flamingo Health Services, "what is euphemisti-cally called a massage estab-

passports and driving licences

lishment", said Lord Meston. He asked for his decree absolute to be speeded up so that he could marry Jinna, who was pregnant by him, because he wanted to "make an honest woman of her".



The hearing continues today. Playboy days: Lord Moynihan with bunny girls in London in the 1950s

Photograph: Rex Features

Police challenge Hillsborough ruling

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES

Five police officers who suf- Sheffield stadium. fered post-traumatic stress disorder after tending to victims of the 1989 Hillsborough tragedy yesterday challenged a High Court ruling that they were not entitled to compen-

Their appeal follows last month's out-of-court settlement with 14 officers who suf- peal. fered psychological illness after

struggling to save fans from being crashed to death in pens at the Leppings Lane end of the

thony Beavis, Pc Geoffrey Glave. Set Janet Smith and Insp Henry White attended to the dving or dead outside the Leppings Lane enclosures where the tragedy took place. A sixth officer in the original case has decided not to ap-

The three defendants to the

Officers y South Yorkshire Police

Club and the club's engineers
- have admitted liability for negligence. But Mr Justice Waller ruled last April in respect of the six that they were not close enough to the scene of the tragedy to be entitled to compensation.

Claims from a further 17 officers will depend on the out-

action - South Yorkshire Police, come of the two-day appeal, the reached the Court of Appeal. Benet Hytner QC, for the five, urged the Lords Justices

Rose, Henry and Judge to rule that the judge had been wrong to hold that the relationship between the officers and their chief constable did not give rise to a duty not to expose them to a foreseeable risk of psy-

considerations applied in the anger among bereaved families case of a rescuer who suffered of the 96 dead fans - many of psychiatric damage from those whom received either only which applied to a case of

physical injury, Mr Hytner said. The officers' solicitor, Simon Allen, said outside the court: "They accepted the reasonable risks of their service, but they should not be expected to deal with the appalling conse-

chiatric injury. Further, he also ruled incorrectly that different A ruling in favour of the officers will, however, re-ignite modest compensation, or none at all, under the law.

The House of Lords has ruled that relatives suffering post-traumatic stress after watching the horror unfold on television, or at the Hillsborough ground, or mortuary quences of the negligent actions some hours later have no claim



Police officers helping the injured at Hillsborough

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SIGNIFICANT SHORTS

The controversial reign of Martin Mears as Law Society president was at an end last night after "establishment" candidate Tony Girling narrowly captured the top job in the annual elections. Mr Mears' attempt to make history by winning the second consecutive contested election ended in disappointment as 15,911 members backed Mr Girling to Mr Mears' 14,239. The humiliation was all the greater because Mr Girling's two running mates. Phillip Sycamore and Michael Mathews, also saw off candidates from the Mears' slate. In likewise close votes, Mr Sycamore beat the current vicepresident Robert Sayer by 16.319 votes to 14.852; Mr Mathews beat the deputy vice-president David Keating by 16,080 to 14,359.

The urbane Mr Girling, the 52-year-old senior partner of his Kent solicitors' firm, is currently vice-president. His team fought the election as official candidates of the Campaign for New Leadership, formed to oust the iconoclastic Mr Mears and his sympathisers from office. Speaking in the wake of a bitterly fought campaign, Mr Girling said: "We must put behind us the intense and and sincere disagreements of recent weeks." Patricia Wynn Davies

The Treasury has used a series of big arms projects to avert the threat of a Government defeat tonight over the £1.6hn sale of armed forces quarters.

Ministers have denied any direct link between the sale of the estates and weapons orders. But senior Tory sources said last night that leverage had been applied to the Secretary of State for Defence, Michael Portillo, by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, who has told Mr Portillo a decision cannot be reached on the orders until the homes sale vote is settled. A Cabinet committee has stalled the decision on the £2bn replacement of the Nimrod surveillance aircraft for a fortnight. It is expected to reach a decision on Thursday, along with orders for a new missile, which could produce thousands of jobs.

Labour will force a vote on the sale of the Ministry of Defence homes tonight in the Commons, and tabled a motion in identical terms to one supported by 65 Tory MPs to maximise the rebellion. But the Tories have been under intense pressure by Mr Portillo and senior colleagues not to vote with Labour, which has whittled the rebels down to 22. Colin Brown

The embattled Dean of Lincoln Cathedral, the Very Rev Brandon Jackson, has written to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, to protest that Dr Carey held a press conference earlier this month to discuss his efforts to persuade him to resign. Dr Jackson returned yesterday from a fortnight's holiday, on which he was considering his future, and immediately issued a statement saying: "As a result of the flurry of publicity surrounding the statements of others during my absence. I have returned to mountains of letters urging me not to resign. However, people familiar with his thinking suggest that he may finally be preparing to leave his post after seven years in office, during which he has survived a full-scale trial for adultery with Verity Freestone, a former verger at the cathedral, and striven mightily to rid the cathedral of its Sub-Dean and treasurer, Canon Rex Davis. Andrew Brown

Doctors are spearheading a new campaign to cut drink-driving by tightening up the blood-alcohol limit, and introducing random breath testing, which they claim is a strong deterrent for persistent drink-drivers. The launch of the campaign coincides with the Government's summer offensive against drink-driving, details of which will be announced today.

The British Medical Association, backed by health and safety groups. vesterday called for the alcohol limit for drivers to be cut from 80mg per 100ml of blood (equivalent to about two pints of ordinary bitter, or four glasses of wine for a man, and half that for a woman) to 50mg, Liz Hunt



The father of ecstasy victim Leah Betts (above) said yesterday that drug education should be started in primary schools, as new research revealed that nine out of ten teenagers were ignorant about its effects. Paul Betts, whose daughter died after taking a tablet at her 18th birthday party at her home in Latchingdon, Essex, last November, said children should be given

the "total truth" about drug taking "very early".

The survey of 5.000 14- to 18-year-olds found that many were unaware that taking eestasy could be fatal and almost half did not know that it could cause death at any time, not just the first time it was taken. In Britain, more than 500,000 people are said to use the drug each week. Glenda Cooper

Following our article of 8 July about the electronic cash scheme in Swindon, its operators. Mondex, ask us to point out that the pilot is still continuing in

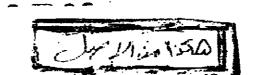
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BACK ISSUES



sex, money, class, cricket - and death

Imran Khan was not the only big hitter. There was Colin Moyniban, a former Tory sports minister and Olympic rowing medalist, fighting for his late half-brother's peerage against those springing from the deceased Lord Moynihan's sleazy past: Daniel, five-year-old son of a Filippina belly-dancer, and Andrew, seven-year-old child of another of his Oriental brides.

Terry Venables was down to defend himself against those who want to disqualify him as a company director. But, like the ongoing saga of an attempted takeover of Leeds United Football Club, it was adjourned. Likewise, the Mousetrap of the court's daily theatre, the McDonald's libel trial, Britain's longest ever, took a day off.

Litigation is the lifeblood of these

the judges who settled the land disfinest, George Carman, street-fighter, representing the elegant Khan, and Charles Gray QC, patrician, representing bad boy Botham.

"A libel action," one defamation

courts. In the Great Hall are two por- lawyer said yesterday, "is like putting "offensive" accusations about balltraits, known as "The Fire Judges", on a stage production. The only difference is that you don't have a script putes after the Great Fire of London for the witness. You never know in 1666. Today, the celebrities are bar- what your actors will say. It gives risters. In Court 19 are two of the colour, uncertainty and a serious edge to the drama."

And yesterday, Gray, like a formulaic Greek playright, set out the plot and moral of his tale as he laid out the rules of cricket and Khan's

tampering, race and class.

And last night, Howard Law-Thompson slept with more hope. He was sentenced to life imprisonment after he confessed to the police that be tried to kill his mother with a cleaver. But, yesterday, Sir Louis Blom-Cooper QC, one of Britain's leading mental health law experts, told Court 7 how the 17-year-old had

been interviewed without the required responsible adult, even though he had been diagnosed with adult autism. His appeal continues.

At the end of the day's business, 4.30pm, Imran, Botham, Jemima, Sir Louis and Alan Bell streamed out of the Royal Courts into the sunlight. In the cloistered calm left behind. it would have been fitting for a line of monks to file out for Evensong.



Royal divorce just another sorry case

Windsor y Windson

REBECCA FOWLER

The judge adjusted his yellowing wig for what might have been another ordinary day's business in the divorce courts a nurse, a housewife, a railway signal engineer and a serving prisoner were among the petitioners on his list.

But then history was made as the clerk came to the 31st case and read out, in the same steady voice, the names of their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of Wales.

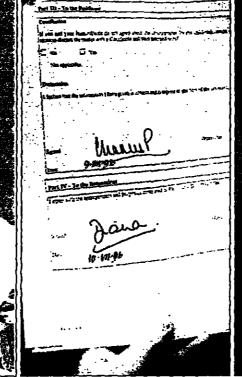
As the sun streamed through into the small, pale green room, and 29 journalists packed the usually empty public benches, it seemed more like the perfect day for a wedding. But 15 years on, the famously tortured marriage of the heir to the throne, was finally being undone in Court One at Somerset House, London.

For a fee of £80, the couple, who like all the other petitioners were not in court, were granted a decree nisi. In six wheks and one day. Prince Charles, who initiated the divorce proceedings on the grounds of "irreconcilable differences", will apply for the decree to be made absolute and for an additional £20, the fairytale will be officially declared

Despite their historic status, the proceedings yesterday lasted a mere three minutes. Senior District Judge Gerald Angel has









acquired a unique royal role in recent years, having also given Princess Anne, Camilla Parker-Bowles and the Duke and Duchess of York their divorces in the same court room.

Robin West, the manager of the Family Division of the High Court based at Somerset House, which processes 9,000

mechanics of the procedure: "To all intents and purposes, it's a

It was impossible not to recall that perfect summer's day 15 years ago, the somewhat lengthier ceremony at St Paul's Cathedral, watched by 100 million people, and the famous image of the smiling wedding divorces a year, summed up the party, while thousands lined

the streets to take part in the royal fantasy.

Instead, yesterday's event cemented the royal couple less cheerfully as a mirror of the nation - dysfunctional and unhappy. The reasons given by the other 30 petitioners on the case-list for the breakdown of their marriages echoed many of the Wales's experiences.

One poignantly described the horrors of an unhappy marriage: "I still suffer from nightmares about the respondent. I am still nervous, lucking in selfesteem and depressed because of the respondent's cruel behaviour towards me. I was prescribed Prozac and other

anti-depressants. A husband had petitioned for

divorce on the basis of his wife's unreasonably lively social life. He said: "The respondent behaved badly, ie staving out late at night and drinking heavily. Tension grew between us and

she left in July 1992. I have not

heard of her ever since." In circumstances that reflected the Waleses until 1993. when they formally separated, one couple said: "We have lived separate lives in the same home for some time." Another wife explained how her husband told her he had been staying with a woman in Ivory Coast, by whom

he had had two children. Perhaps the only real difference between the royal couple and the other petitioners was their divorce settlement. Princess Diana will receive £1m for each year of her marriage to Prince Charles, but her ap-pearance as HRH on the court list may be the last time, since she is to relinquish the title.

The Princess at Kensington Palace yesterday, and is expected to go on holiday to France with the Duchess of York this week with their children, while the Prince was in Asia, watching a military parade s part of the Sultan of Brunei's 50th birthday celebrations.

For passers-by who paused outside Somerset House and recalled their street parties for the royal wedding, there was little left to celebrate. Judith Woodford, 53, a physiotherapist from St Albans, Hertfordshire, said: "It did seem like a fairytale then, re were so excited, and now it's

steps up to crease for libel battle

Botham

CLARE GARNER

Ian Botham played a straight bat against his cricketing rival Imran Khan as he stood in the dock vesterday afternoon, denying that he was a racist and a ball-tamperer. The jury was well briefed on the lingo and aerodynamics of the game. Charles Gray QC, representing Mr Botham and Allan Lamb, delivered an ABC guide to cricket - even though he admitted that his definition of a twelfth man was wide of the

As the most expensive libel case in cricketing history got un-der way at the High Court, Khan revealed a fresh line of attack on England's record-breaking all rounder. It emerged that just last week Khan's defence team had announced it was making fresh allegations this time of ball-tampering by Botham - and that it would be showing video footage of the two offending occasions, one during Pakistan's first innings in the Test match at Lord's in 1982 and another in the first innings of the Test match at the Oval in the same year.

is suing Khan, the teetotal. Oxford-educated former Pakistan captain, for allegedly suggesting that he was racist, not properly educated and of inferior social standing. Both men are supported by their wives, Kath and Jemima respectively, who sat beside their husbands for the bearing.

The saga began in 1994. In a dramatic interview with Shekhar Gupta, senior editor of India Today, which took place in the magazine's London bureau. Khan is quoted as saying: There's a lot of racism here. When Bob Willis and Freddie Trueman were tearing the heart of Pakistan batting we never heard an outcry ... Australians can get away with anything hecause they are white. There's a lot of racism in this society. Look at people such as Lamb and Botham making statements like 'I never thought much of him anyway and now he's been proved a cheat'. Where is this

hatred coming from?" Khan allegedly went on to say "class problem". He pointed to the difference in class and upbringing between education "Oxford types" like Tony Lewis. Christopher Martin Jenkins and Derek Pringle), and others like "Lamb, Botham and True-

Rolling a cricket ball in the even in the nets."

palm of his hand, Botham told

And as for ex the court had he had first read Khan's accusations in the Independent, "Anger" he said. "I was just very screwed up inside. I couldn't understand what this

Khan y Lamb and Botham

was about. I thought we'd got rid of the day of amateurs and professionals. To me it's open to anyone to play. It's not an élite sport." Botham described his background, of which he said he was "very proud". He left his secondary modern school in Yeovil, aged 15, to play cricket at Lord's and appreciated the sacrifices his parents made on his behalf. His mother would be very upset to hear the exact nature of the accusations, "and rightly so," he said.

Racism was something he had fought all his life. He wasn't hothered whether a player was "green and yellow with red spots and comes from Mars." He recalled a time he had in-tervened, when Viv Richards, the former West Indian captain. was called a "black bastard" and explained how he left his home county club of Somerset in protest over its treatment of Mr Richards and Joel Garner, both Afro/Caribbean players.

But despite the seriousness of the occasion, Botham wasn't The two cricketing legends averse to cracking jokes. The irare battling it out over racism, reverent moment elicited a rip-



ple of laughter from the public gallery, while Khan and his pregnant wife, Jemima, fixed their adversary with a steely stare. When he asked whether he was "fussy" about who he shared a room with on tour Botham replied "Derek Randall [the Nottinghamshire and England batsman] could have been a worry. He's snores like hell. But apart from that, not at that England suffers from a all." He had shared with coloured people on many occasions, he added.

On the subject of fair play, he said you could stretch the laws of the game "to a point" - but only so far. Tampering with the hall was alien to him, he said. "I've never lifted the seam, not

And as for explaining the phrase "looking after the ball a bit better" he said wearily "I understand it [the phrase] a bit bet-

ter now. The case continues.



Forces pay to be linked to skills

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

Defence chiefs are planning to introduce performance related pay into the services as prospects for promotion decrease, senior defence sources revealed vesterday. As the forces get smaller, there will be less chance for promotion - the traditional way of rewarding good performance.

The forces have accepted the idea that, as in many areas of civilian life, pay bands should overlap the different ranks, so



Michael Portillo: Decision

that people with special skills and experience can be paid more even if promotion is not available.

The recommendations have to be approved by Michael Portillo, the Secretary of State for Defence, and a formal announcement is expected in the next few months.

The plans are based on last year's recommendations by Michael Bett. the former deputy chairman of British Telecom who conducted a radical review of armed forces' pay and conditions. Most of his recommendations have been thrown out, notably plans to "flatten" the hierarchy by merging certain

tion accepted was the abolition of the "five-star" ranks of Admiral of the Fleet, Field Marshal and Marshal of the RAF. But Mr Bett's proposals to merge major-generals with lieutenant-generals and full colonels with brigadiers, and their Navy and RAF equiva-

and more tasks shared between cancies for people in the top ranks is diminished.

advocate of performance related pay. His recommendation is seen as helpful as the services become even more technical, and face difficulty retaining highly qualified specialists such as electronic warfare experts, computer, signals and aviation engineers and pilots. The working group on the Bett report, made up of senior military officers and civilian officials, has recommended these staff be paid something closer to the going rate for the job.

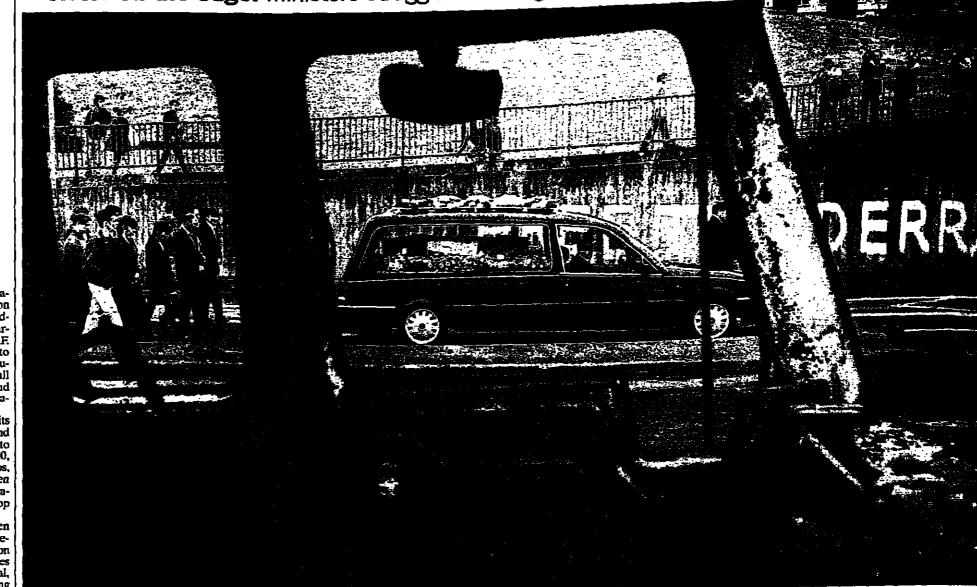
The working group rejected Mr Bett's recommendation that the right of service personnel to draw a pension from the age of 40 should be abolished. The proposal caused an outery within the armed forces as this right was seen as vital to help people setting up in civilian life while they might still have young children. The group strongly recom-

mended the right be retained.

lents, have been ditched. With the Army reducing its personnel to 100,000 by the end of the century, the Air Force to 60,000 and the Navy to 44,000, fewer units, aircraft and ships, the services, the number of va-

Mr Bett is known as a keen

The sources also confirmed that the Army Board had rejected the idea of recruiting women into the frontline but was looking at greater opportunities in all the other branches of the service, including artillery and engineers, where Ulster on the edge: Ministers struggle to salvage the peace process amid party acrimony



The funeral cortege for Dermot McShane, who was killed during rioting in Londonderry last week, passing through the city's Bogside area yesterday

Review of Ulster marches ordered

COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

A review of marches in Ulster was ordered yesterday by the Northern Ireland Secretary, Sir Patrick Mayhew, in an attempt to defuse the explosive tensions over the marching season in the province.

In a separate move, Sir Patrick Mayhew agreed to Irish pressure for an urgent meeting with Dick Spring, the Irish Foreign Minister, to thrash out the deep-seated differences between the two governments. The Prime Minister will also women already do some jobs. I meet Ulster Unionist and deeply concerned by the threat

SDLP leaders in the next few of the Apprentice Boys to stage days in an attempt to keep the a march in Derry on 12 Angust days in an attempt to keep the talks process in Ulster alive.

The Irish Government will demand that the review of the marches - with the prospect of a commission to vet the route and size of processions - should be independent, and be brought in as an emergency measure to deal with Orange parades next

Dublin and London will underline their determination to rescue the talks process, with another meeting attended by the democratic parties in Belfast today. But the Irish are

along the same route as a march in 1969 led to deployment of the

Army on the streets. Sir Patrick made it clear in a statement to the Commons that he would use the talks, expected to resume on Thursday, to rebut the "quite unjustified and unwarranted criticism" by the Irish Prime Minister, John Bruton, of the decision to allow the march in Drumcree to go ahead, which rekindled violence across the province.

David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader, came in for sharp Commons criticism for his role in the Orangemen's protests. Mo Mowlam, the Labour spokeswoman, had been urging an independent review of the marches on the Government for some time and reiterated her call. David Steel, for the Liberal Democrats, accused Mr Trimble of saying, in effect: "There is a crowd: I must follow it."

At a hurriedly arranged press conference, Mr Trimble said Drumcree was in his constituency and it was inevitable he would be involved.

MICHAEL STREETER

Protestant families are being intimidated into leaving their homes and Unionist buildings without proper police protec-tion, the Reverend Ian Paisley claimed yesterday.

The Democratic Unionist Party leader also called on the new Peace Forum to look into the issue of Orange parades in the run-up to the "next great crisis point" of marches to be held on 12 August. At a hastily convened press

conference the Reverend

Paisley bitterly attacked the SDLP and its leader John Hume for "resigning" from the Nationalist protests. "We have tabled a motion for Friday19 July, calling for the es-

tablishment of a special committee to examine the contentious issue of public order at parades," he said. Such a committee, he said,

should report before the Apprentice Boys' marches occurred next month, and review the province's public order laws

for Orange parades

Rev Paisley said he would be meeting Northern Ireland Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew this morning and demanding that the SDLP rejoin the Forum. Otherwise they will be scuppering the talks,"he said. As Nationalist protests con-

ditional Orange parades.

Paisley waves baton

tinued, Rev Paisley highlighted attacks on Orange Halls and Protestant homes and monuments. In one case in Co Tyrone, he said, a Protestant had telephoned him to say his house was surrounded by Nationalist protesters and that the police had told him they could not attend - and simply advised him to leave his home.

He said Protestants were were even more at risk after the McShane who was killed during rioting at the weekend. Mr McShane, a former member of the INLA, was crushed by an army vehicle during rioting early on Saturday morning. He was buried in the city's cemetery yesterday. His funeral in Londonderry, which was attended by 1.000 people including John Hume and senior Sinn Fein representative Martin McGuin-

ness, passed off peacefully. The aftermath of the upsurge of violence in the province has come as a bitter blow to members of the community who had grown hopeful during

the ceasefire. Catholic priest Fr Con McLaughlin said at the Long Tower Catholic Church in the city he had never seen the community so depressed "almost to the point of despair". He appealed for calm on all sides. self-imposed ceasefire.

which posed a threat to the tra- Protestant homes have been attacked in Newtownbutler, Co Tyrone, and in Newry and Newastle in Co Down, where one family had to flee their bome via the beach.

The attacks mirror last week's events when many Catholics, including 40 in north Belfast, were intimidated out of their houses by Loyalist mobs. A police source said: "We

have now seen Protestant homes and businesses targeted in the same way as Catholics were last week."

The province was relatively quiet yesterday, compared to the chaotic week following the Drumcree siege, but in Beliast the morning saw 50 petrolbombs hurled at the New were even more at risk after the Barnsley police station by funeral of Catholic Dermot Nationalists, while in Downpatrick youths threw 60 petrolbombs in bitter clashes with the security forces.

A taxi was set fire in Cookstown and in Armagh three BP

tanker lorries were set ablaze. Unusually, there was also Nationalist rioting in Enniskillen, where the day before a 1,200 lb bomb had ripped apart the Killyhevlin Hotel.

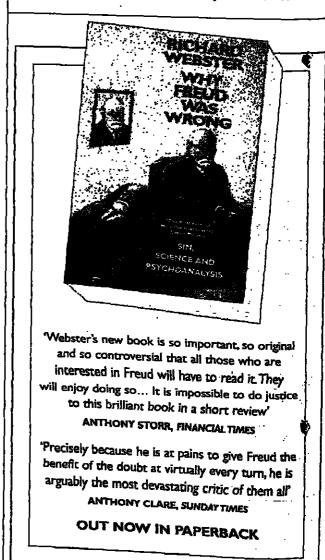
Police said it was still not clear who planted the device following denials from Republican Sinn Fein and the IRA.

David Ervine of the Progressive Unionist Party, who is close to Loyalist para-military thinking, said he was still "gloomy" about the future of the peace process, but said that the IRA's denial, though he did not necessarily believe it, was probably enough to keep Unionist para-militaries to their

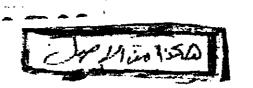




ase prices and this new service are not available until July 24th 1996. Intent prices are slightly higher and there is a connection cost to our London exchange charged at your normal carrier's rates.



Fontana Press



Alien risk: Deadly infections could be brought back by expeditions as reality mirrors science fiction, says former Nasa expert

Bugs from space a threat to the Earth

CHARLES ARTHUR Science Editor

There is a tiny but real risk that future space expeditions might bring back deadly microorganisms to Earth, as happened in the novel The Andromeda Strain, according to an international group of space

John Rummel, formerly in charge of the planetary protection program at the US space agency Nasa, said: "We don't know if there are organisms out there, so we have to take precautions."

Now based at the Marine Biological Laboratory, in Massa-chusetts, he said that the odds of discovering sites where Earth-like life could grow had increased greatly. "It appears that life is a natural product of planetary evolution," he said. "So we have to be ready for sur-

An international space conference in Birmingham was told that Nasa had allowed insufficient time to design quarantine systems for samples returned from the Moon during the Apollo missions, leaving a risk of contamination being brought back. "They spent \$24m on something that, in the end, satisfied almost nobody," Dr Rummel said.

Such systems would have to be better designed when dealing with samples from Mars, which had a far greater potential for harbouring life, he said.

The space and life scientists reviewed plans in place to protect the Earth from contamination by any life-form that space travel might reveal, whether on the Moon, Mars or even comets - which are

thought by some to have seed-ed life on Earth.

Scientists told the conference that 12 meteorites had landed on Earth from Mars, revealing that millions of years ago conditions on the planet could have allowed life to develop.

In The Andromeda Strain, by Michael Crighton, a space capsule returns to Earth having picked up a deadly micro-organism which subsequently kills almost all the inhabitants of a town. The problem for any real-life scientists battling against such an organism would be recognising it.

The scientists, who met yesterday in Birmingham at the start of a six-day conference which is expected to attract 1,500 delegates, are understood to urge a cautious approach in returning rocks and other sam-ples from Mars and Europa, one of Jupiter's moons. "Until we find life somewhere else, we don't really know what we know," Dr Rummel said.

Scientists have long been aware of the possibility that interplanetary life might be dangerous to human or other Earth life. But the worries about contamination of one planet by another also extend the other way: Nasa's designs now include precautions to ensure that life from Earth - such as bacteria - is not spread to Mars by spacecraft. Such contamination could easily lead to the ex-citing but false "discovery" of

life on the planet. However, the risks from other worlds remain low. So far, the only death caused by material from Mars is that of an Egyptian dog, in the last century. It was hit by one of the 12 meteorites.



of us

The fear that aliens may not be good for us has a long history, forming the stuff of science fiction down the years from The Quaternass Experiment in the 1960s, in which one of the British crew of an orbiting rocket is transfigured into what looks like a moiten tree on legs. through The Andromeda Strain in the 1970s, when a microscopic organism clots the blood instantaneously, causing immediate death, to the forthcoming movie Independence Day, about an all-out attack by aliens against our world.

When the aliens are friendly, the standard move is to depict authoritarian bodies desperate to keep things secret. In ET and Close Encounters of the Third Kind, the aliens were friendly, and so were their bacteria. But the signs are that, if we do encounter life, we would do better to adopt a cautious approach, rather than take it immediately to our leader.

Little hope for Siamese twin girls

LIZ HUNT Health Editor

Siamese twins born with a single heart and sharing other vital organs are unlikely to sur-vive beyond a few weeks, doc-

tors said yesterday.
The twin girls, born last
Thursday at the Queen Mother's
Matermity Hospital, Glasgow, are joined at the chest and the abdomen and have severe liver, kid-

ney and bowel abnormalities.
The shared heart effectively rules out any chance of both twins surviving an operation to separate them. The parents, who have not been identified, have said they would only agree to separation if there was a good chance for each baby to enjoy

a reasonable quality of life.

The babies, born four weeks early by Caesarean section, weighed 11ib and are being ventilated and fed intravenously in the hospital's intensive care unit. Both have been baptised and their mother was able to hold

them the day after delivery. A detailed investigation of their conjoined state has not been possible because of their poor condition, Dr Barbara Holland, a consultant paediatrician, said yesterday. She said they may survive days or even weeks, but their outlook was "very poor".

They have very severe illnesses and it's doubtful they will survive very long. They have abnormalities of several of their organs," Dr Holland said. The mother of the twins, a

woman in her thirties from central Scotland, who has other children, was unaware that she was having two babies until the day before their birth. She had undergone an ul-

trasound scan at her local hospital because doctors thought she was large for her stage of pregnancy. When conjoined twins were identified, she was referred to Glasgow for confirmation and doctors decided to deliver the babies immediately.

A spokesman at the hospital said yesterday that the woman had had a routine scan at 8-12 weeks of pregnancy and no problems were identified. It appears that another routine

Shared bodies, different lives

Conjoined (Siamese) twins are identical twins who have failed to separate completely from a single fertilised egg. tury, Mary and Elisa Chulkhurst from Kent, jained at the hip and shoulder, are reputed to have lived until the age of 34. The first-recorded Stamese wins in modern times – and the best known - were Chang and Eng born in Thailand (for-

merly Siam) in 1811.
Until their death in 1993 at the age of 43. Yvonrie and Yveste McCarther, from Los Angeles, were the world's longest surviving Slamese twins. Joined at the head and sharing the same circulation, they toured in a travelling freak show before training as chil-dren's nurses in their 30s. were the most recent British Stamese twins, born on 14 September last year at St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester. They were joined from the breast bone to the navel and underwent an operation to separate their bowels in the first few weeks of life. Com-

pleta separation was planned

for sometime in their first year,

but the girls died from a

bowel disease. scan at 16-20 weeks did not take place - some women decline this - and apart from her size, there were no indications that the pregnancy was abnormal.

Dr Gavin Hanretty, who with Dr Allan Cameron delivered the children, said the delivery was well planned and pretty straightforward in the circumstances". It took about 40 minutes. He said the parents were very anxious but were receiving support from hospital staff and their own family.

They have been kept fully informed and have had a lot of contact with their children ... the mother appears to be remarkably well under the circumstances, he said.



Cards

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The Dalai Lama brings a note of Buddhist peace and harmony to Britain



Peace in our time: The Dalai Lama in London at the start of a week in Britain promoting 'Peace in Action'; in his public talks to be given in London and Manchester he will stress the need for individuals to work for peace and to keep a sense of 'universal responsibility'

Lone MP says 'no' to that £9,000 pay rise

ANTHONY BEVINS Political Editor

Only one MP has so far told the Commons authorities that he. or she, wants to restrict their pay rise to 3 per cent, even though 170 MPs voted for that degree of restraint last week.

A spokesman for the House of Commons Fees Office said yesterday that MPs had until the end of this week to limit their increase for this month's salary payment. After that, it was likely that any voluntary cuts would come out of next month's.

Under the terms of the Commons resolution passed on MPs' pay, the backbench salary goes up from £34,085 to £43,000. back-dated to 1 July - an in-crease of 26 per cent, or £445.95

pound. Chris Mullin, the Labour MP who was barracked in the debate when he called for restraint, said yesterday he would take a 3 per cent rise - just over £1,000 a year - and give away the rest of the £8,915 gross in-

crease. "I have had for some years a donations account, so for anything over 3 per cent. I will transfer it into that account and give it away," he said. " If I were to leave it with the Treasury, it would only be given away in tax cuts to Tory voters."

As announced last week.
Tony Blair, the Labour leader,
is also exercising self-restraint after last week's vote, when he endorsed the Prime Minister's call for ministers and others to et an example.

John Major's idea of public with the Treasury. example does not extend to

start of this month. The Prime Minister's office said that was

a private matter. All ministers will get that increase, which comes from the rise in the parliamentary element of their pay from an abated level of £25,660 to the full backbench rate of £43,000, unless they instruct the Treasur, to withhold the full amount.

The pace-setting - and public - example being set by Mr Blair could help them to make up their minds. He has decided that he will take 3 per cent of his overall salary of £65.992 which comprised £25.660 parliamentary salary and £40,332 position. That means he will take an increase of just under £2,000, and leave more than £15,000

If Mr Major took a 3 per cent telling the public what he is going to do with the £17.340 increase he is due in his crease of just over £5.500.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL ROYAL MAIL CUSTOMERS.

MORE NATIONAL STRIKES BY COMMUNICATION **WORKERS UNION**

Royal Mail regret that the CWU has again called further strike action.

We are extremely disappointed that the Union has decided on this course of action. They have agreed that progress has been made on the issue of flexible working and have agreed a new pay package for postmen and women.

But they now want us to agree to delay up to 30% of your mail from first delivery to the second delivery.

We will not agree to lower our standards of service like this and have asked for the strike action to be called off. However, if it does go ahead:

- There will be few letter deliveries or collections on Thursday 18th July.
- Deliveries and collections will resume on Friday 19th July.
- We recommend that you avoid posting mail on Wednesday and Thursday of this week.

Parcelforce services are unaffected. Post Offices will remain open as normal.

For up to date information, please call us on the following Customer Information Line:

0345 740 740

We will be doing our best to keep disruptions to a minimum and ensure that your letter services return to normal as soon as possible. We apologise in advance for the inconvenience this strike will cause.



McCarthy joins attack on 'cruel asylum rules'

JOHN RENTOUL Political Correspondent

The former Beirut hostage John McCarthy yesterday joined bishops and opposition politicians calling on MPs to allow refugees three days grace to apply for asylum after they arrive in Britain.

"The suggestion that people who have been abused, and seen friends and relatives similarly abused and even murdered. should be capable at once of addressing bureaucratic minutiae to present a case for asylum, in an alien language, is both cruel and absurd," he said.

In the Lords last week peers voted by a three-strong majority to allow asylum seekers three days to lodge an application. Peter Lilley, Secretary of State for Social Security, insisted he had to delete the measure benefits to people appealing against a refusal of refugee status. "If this were a minor amendment only affecting genuine refugees, we wouldn't seek to overturn it," Mr Lilley said.

Chris Smith, Labour's social security spokesman, accused Mr Lilley of misleading MPs about the effect of the Lords

to the Government to clarify the wording of the rules. "Many people who are genuine refugees fail to claim asylum on arrival in this country for pera man in a uniform that they

fear persecution." Mr Lilley said on BBC radio: "There is no question of us taking away benefits from people who don't understand the minutiae of the bureaucratic procedures of claiming asylum. We will take away benefits from those who not only don't claim asylum, but who claim to be something other than asylum-seekers, such as businessmen or tourists who convince the immigration authorities they have the means to support themselves."

Dr George Carey, the Arch-Basil Hume, the Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, and the Rev Kathleen Richardson, the Moderator of the Free Churches Federation, yesterday urged the Government not to overturn the Lords amendment.

Mr Lilley said he respected the position of the church leaders, but added: "It is based on

Wales finds its English fans

Things are bad in the principality. Nursery school pupils inhabit prefabricated classrooms which cover the playing-fields of Rhymney, mental patients roam Abertillery, residential homes are being closed from one end of Rhondda-Cynon-Taff to the other. Wales is a scene of almost Biblical desolation after 17 years of neglect and despolia-tion. Thus spake the 20-plus Welsh Labour MPs yesterday, in their "questions" to the Sec-

retary of State for Wales. But the decidedly non-Welsh Conservative MPs who were also present had a strangely conflicting view of life west of the Severn. In their Wales, invest-ment has reached record levels, new bridges and factories dot a landscape populated by well-ed-ucated and highly subsidised entrepreneurs, more patients are treated than ever - often before they know they are ill. The only bridge between these two worlds. Mr Michael Fabricant (a born adventurer who often travels all the way to Wales), could shed no light on this strange dichotomy.

He was concerned instead to have the existing bilingual road signs replaced with multicoloured ones - presumably so that he can tell when he has crossed the border. So we were left with the odd situation where those that actually live in Wales told us what a dump it was, and those who represent seats in suburban north-west London portrayed the far-off land as a paradise - Eden with Koreans,

This may well explain a difference in opinions about what to make of asylum-seekers. Labour finds it hard to believe that anybody would come to this country unless forced to on pain of direst persecution. After all,



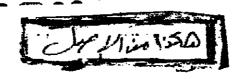
DAVID AARONOVITCH Tories know any foreign spiv

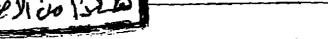
worth his salt will make a beeline for the honeypots of Britain. Thus the Government is busy creeting a barrier of stupendous proportions to prevent "bogus asylum-seekers' from staying here. And attracting a great deal of criticism from the hishops for so doing. Allied to the bishops are certain liberal Conservative backbenchers of distinctly epis-copal micn; the lean and ascetic, evangelical Peter Bottomley, and the more bulky High

Church MP for Staffordshire South, Sir Patrick Cormack. Yesterday they came togeth er with the grave Jack Straw and the saintly Liberal Democrat. David Alton, to try to shake the rock that is Anne Widdecombe,

Home Office minister.
But Ms Widdecombe is not easily shaken. Her centre of gravity is low and her resolve enormous. A devout and re-cently converted Catholic, she is the embodiment of muscular Christianity. It is not that she is unsympathetic to the poor, the weak and the downtrodden. Indeed, she prays for them. It is rather that she is far more worried by the work-shy, the

fraudulent and the criminal. With great efficiency, she dismissed amendment after amendment from those worried that genuine asylum-seekers might suffer from the Governof direct persecution. After all, they might end up in Wales. it's all a matter of perception.







question of economics

Birt stands firm against World Service backlash

MARIANNE MACDONALD Media Correspondent

John Birt, director-general of the BBC, yesterday stood firmly by his decision to dismember the World Service in the face of the growing backlash from staff

and listeners. Disaffected employees of the renowned radio service believe that its editorial independence will be abolished by his plans for the corporate restructuring.

abruptly announced in June. They argue that the quality of its news service will be remestic agenda.

They are also angered by his decision to stop the World Service making its own English language arts, business, drama, music, sport, science and religion programmes. These will be bought from the BBC's production division.

More than 1,350 staff have signed a petition to "save the saw a lobby of Parliament on the issue, which the former head of Service like it's a statue in the it broadcasts and it needs a

duced by the move to absorb its newsroom into the BBC news division dominated by the do-

But Mr Birt told a press conference that the restructuring of the organisation would go ahead as planned. We are going to have to continue to explain the considerable benefits which will come," he said.

Questioned about whether the reorganisation would lead to job losses, he refused to commit himself.

"People talk about the World

rating commissioning from production they have been conspicuously and demonstrably successful.

It was a question of economics, the director-general continued. The World Service, which has 140 million listeners. would face a £10m gap within the next couple of years between income and expenditure.

There is a major competitive change to the markets in which more flexible, loose-limbed structure for the digital age to allow it to adapt its services and make them ever more creative - and their costs ever less.

"We will take that argument to the doubters and to our own staff and in the end we will win it, because they are good and strong arguments."

The fightback by the BBC's most senior staff continued last night when Sir Christopher Bland, the corporation's new chairman, defended the reorganisation in a speech to the Radio Academy in Birmingham.

retain its editorial independence and would continue remain "a separately managed directorate within the BBC, he told delegates to the conference.

"The authority of the World Service will not be reduced by the changes. John Birt and I have given an undertaking to the Foreign Office, and I and the Board of Governors would not agree to proposals which risked

any diminution in quality. The World Service's programmes will remain distinct from those in other areas of the

The World Service would BBC. There is no question of it being swallowed up by some homogenising BBC new machine." Sir Christopher added that it was "the one service which was mentioned to me time and time again by the 400 or so people

who wrote to congratulate me

when I became chairman. "The message was the same: Look after the World Service." It was not a question of "if it ain't broke, don't fix it," he continued. "I say: the World Service may not be 'broke' now, but we want to ensure that it doesn't become 'broke' in the future.

Asterix the hero goes back into battle

new children's book featuring the Gallic hero Asterix is to be published in October, two years after Asterix author and illustrator Albert Uderzo announced he was retiring and

taking his creation with him. Publishers Hodder and Stoughton, who will have a worldwide print run of 3 million and an initial run in the United Kingdom of 50,000, say that Uderzo was persuaded to change his mind following an Asterix convention attended by 3,000 British fans, at which he was guest of honour.

The book, the 35th in the Asterix series, is the first new one for five years and, say the publishers, possibly the last ever. Though Asterix is sometimes thought of as a childhood hero for twenty- and thirtysomethings, he is actually more popular today than ever before. More than 3.5 million books have been sold in Britain in the

Asterix the Gaul, created in Paris by the author and illustrator team Goscinny and Uderzo, is one of the greatest publishing successes ever. It started in the French weekly magazine Pilote, and worldwide book sales are now well over 25 million. Hodder and



Taking on the world: Illustrator/author Albert Uderzo with the valiant Obelix and Asterix Photograph: Rex

Stoughton published the first has also featured on CD-Roms English language edition in

Asterix and Tintin are the only European cartoon heroes to have been successful in Britain. The appeal of Asterix and his compatriot Obelix staunchly resisting Roman invasion, and the crafty little villager outwitting a far mightier enemy force, has proved so strong that in opinion surveys he has proved to be more pop-ular than Mickey Mouse. He

and CD-i language learning sets. Uderzo, who is 69, was the original illustrator of Asterix. but took over writing the stories as well in the Seventies when the author Rene Goscinny died. The new book was prompted by the Asterix Convention to mark the 25th anniversary of Asterix in Britain in 1994. Úderzo was so moved by the warmth of his British admirers and their pleadings for him to come out of retirement, that he finally

started another book.

Hodder and Stoughton, with Asterix publishers throughout Europe, have been sworn to secrecy about the plot and even the litle of the new book, although there are heavy hints that the plot might see Asterix and Obelix returning to Britain. Peter Kessler, author of The Complete Guide To Asterix, disagrees, believing that in the new book the Gauls will reach China, one of the few countries they have not yet visited.

Hodder Children's Books are making the most of the return of one of the perennial children's favourites with a marketing campaign which is to involve chartering a train from London for the day of publication to go to Parc Asterix, the French theme park just outside Paris to collect the book.

On board the "Asterix Express", travellers will be issued with Gaullish passports, stamped on board by a Roman legionary. When they arrive at Gare du Nord, travellers will be piped on to special coaches by Cacofonix the bard and taken to the park, where Albert Uderzo will welcome them. A theme-park Asterix will accompany them back to London with stacks of the books to deliver to the shops.

Leading article, page 13





Inspiration: Uderzo matches his cartoon action to the melodrama of The Raft of the Medusa, by Theodore Asterix the Legionary/The Complete Guide to Asterix by Peter Kessler, published by Hodder Children's Books Géricault



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Where's Boris? Russian leader takes 'holiday' while US Vice-President waits to meet him, but still finds time to sack hardliner

Yeltsin snubs Gore amid new health fears

Europe Editor

Boris Yeltsin provoked fresh concerns about his health yesterday by abruptly postponing a meeting with Al Gore, the US Vice-President. The Russian president then appeared to show he was in full control and functioning normally by announcing a big shake-up of his administration.

The Kremlin stunned Mr Gore and his White House entourage by declaring at the last minute that Mr Yeltsin would not see the Vice-President until today because he had decided to take a holiday.

Mr Yeltsin, 65, who has a history of heart trouble, disappeared from public view on 26 June, resurtacing only in prerecorded television appearances, despite being re-elected in momentous style on 3 July.

The line from official sources has varied. The President has been suffering from either a cold or a sore throat, or was simply in need of a rest after his gruelling election campaign.

Mr Gore was clearly flabbergasted by the postponement, which broke all protocol rules and was announced after a large group of US officials and reporters had already arrived at the Kremlin. He may also have been shocked by the casual way in which Mr Yeltsin's aides treated the extraordinary affair.

Sergei Medvedev, his press secretary, was quoted by the Interfax news agency as saying: "It is the most convenient time to rest and restore his health after a tense election campaign, more so because the weather in the Moscow region is good for

This explanation seemed almost flippant in the light of the attacks. treatment of Mr Gore, and it gave rise to speculation that, in avoiding the Vice-President for ing disapproval at some as-

pects of US policy towards Russia.

It is believed that Mr Gore intends to raise two sensitive issues with Mr Yeltsin: the recent increase in Russian military campaigning in Chechnya, and Nato's determination to incorporate new members from ceniral and eastern Europe.

However, from the US viewpoint, the meeting was always



Yeltsin last Friday: Aides say he needs rest

intended to be a friendly one, and Mr Gore is still expected to congratulate Mr Yeltsin on his re-election to a four-year term. Thus Mr Yeltsin's health and caprice remain the more likely

reasons for the postponement. The Kremlin switched the venue of today's meeting to Barvikha, the village and health care centre outside Moscow where Mr Yeltsin recuperated last year from his two heart

It was at Barvikha that Mr Yeltsin cast his ballot two weeks ago, rather than make a public a day, Mr Yeltsin was express- appearance at his normal

Moscow. Mr Medvedev said the President had not had a full medical check-up since late last year and even refused in recent weeks to have his blood pressure taken. "It is very difficult for the doctors," he said.

Mr Yeltsin's ability to take important decisions appears unaffected, as was demonstrated in a statement issued by his press office fewer than six hours after the postponement of the Gore meeting. It said that Mr Yeltsin had sacked a prominent hardliner, Nikolai Yegorov, as head of his personal staff and replaced him with Anatoly Chubais, a leading reformer and the architect of Russia's

huge privatisation programme. Mr Yegorov's dismissal completes a rout of hardliners that began in mid-June with the sacking of Pavel Grachev as defence minister, Mikhail Barsukov as head of the Federal Security Service (ex-KGB), Oleg Soskovets as a first deputy prime minister representing the military-industrial complex, and Alexander Korzhakov as Mr Yeltsin's Rasputin-like head of presidential security.

The complexion of Mr Yeltsin's administration, which had taken on an increasingly conservative hue as the election approached, is reverting now to more reformist colour following the victory over the Communist leader, Gennady Zyuganov However, much power is concentrated in the hands of the centrist Prime Minister, Viktor Chemomyrdin, and the national security supremo, Alexander Lebed, whose political opinions are unpredictable, but often illiberal.

Mr Chubais was the last outand-out reformer in the Russian government before being dismissed for tactical reasons in January. He played a decisive role in organising Mr Yeltsin's campaign strategy and finances. and he had a hand in the polling station in western sackings of the hardliners.



Where's Boris? Al Gore, with a grim-faced Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin (left) looks bemused at the Kremlin yesterday Photograph: AP

In sickness and in health: How the Russian president has fared in power

October 1991: President Yeltsin-ordered to take two problems - tiredness and lack of sleep. There are: April 1995: A spokesman says the President sufweeks' rest after aides said he had suffered minor no other health problems."

January 1992: Yeltsin falls to meet Japan's foreign invite to Moscow a Spanish surgeon who operated July 1995: Yeltsin goes into hospital for two weeks the President has a heart condition, but he when an airliner crash-landed. reappears 24 hours later in good spirits.

then US Treasury Secretary, Nicholas Brady, Yeltsin impromptu performance, energetically conducting said he was working; the media said he was drunk. a police marching band. the President's health is good," adding that doctors plane to meet the waiting kish Prime Minister durrecommended he use an exercise bicycle.

March 1993: A dishevelled YeltsIn gives a halting a slight indisposition due to the pressures of ameetspeech that scandalises parliament. An opposition, ing with President Bill Clinton. Leaving the plane in deputy says: "The President was dead drunk. He's Moscow, Mr Yellsin said: "I overslept." April 1993: Yeltsin says: "I have only two his nose.

September 1993: A bad back prompts veltsin to sporadic muscle weakness

February 1992: Yeltsin tells French television: "I have President has cirmosis of the liver. Aides deny it. never had any heart trouble. Every day I have a cold. August 1994: Yeltsin, visiting Berlin to mark the the

ing a stopover at Shannon airport. Aides said he had cancels three trips.

December 1994: Yeltsin has a minor operation of 4 July 1996: Yeltsin returns to Kremlin and his press

fers from high blood pressure which can cause

minister. Tokyo news agencies quote aides saying on him in Spain in 1990 for spinal problems caused followed by a fortnight in a sanitorium, with an ischaemic heart condition - a blood supply problem. March 1994: Two former Russian diplomats say the October 1995: In hospital again. Doctors say it is the ischaemic heart condition. He moves to the sanatorium a month later and leaves on New Year's Eve. parture of Russian troops from Germany, appears un- February 1996: Yeltsin launches a vigorous re-elecshower - I am in very good shape. * parture of Russian troops from Germany appears un - February 1996: Yeltsin launches a vigorous re-elec-April 1992: The President misses a meeting with steady after a champagne lunch and gues, an tion campaign. But he has lost his voice and speaks with a croak. He campaigns non-stop and shows no signs of health or drinking problems.

May 1992: Itar-Tass news agency says. "On the whole, September 1994: The President fails to leave his. 16 June 1996: First round of presidential elections. Afterwards, Yeltsin effectively stops campaigning and

28 June 1996: Yeltsin misses a Kremlin meeting with farmers. Aides blame a sore throat and say he is doing paperwork at his country residence.

spekesman says he is in "fine working form".

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60 Hindus die in festival crush

MOHAN NARVARIA

Ujjain - At least 60 people were trampled or suffocated to death and scores injured in stampedes in India early yesterday when Hindu worshippers gathered to celebrate a new moon festival.

Some 39 people, including five children, were killed and 35 injured in Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh state as a crowd of devotees tumbled over each other down a narrow staircase inside a temple complex.

Most of the victims died of suffocation. A few were gored by

bamboo and steel wires as they were thrown against a temporary barricade which had been erected around the main area of worship inside the temple.

Twenty-one others, including 18 women and one child, were killed and 40 seriously injured when devotees rushed to bathe in the River Ganges at the holy northern town of Hardwar.

Eyewitnesses in both towns blamed the authorities for the accident, saying precautions to prevent crowd surges were madequate. Officials said dozens of the

200,000 devotees at Ujjain were trampled underfoot as they

raced down marble steps to a Thousands of devotees, mostly farmers, had gathered on

Sunday night to ensure early entry into the temple. "It's tragic. Most of them had come to thank God for the rains," said the Ujjain commissioner, PS Tomar.

Several of them were seen dancing and singing in praise of God as they queued up in front of the temple gates," he said. Some devotees carried on with their rituals until evening, but most of Ujjain's residents

were in shock. In the incident at Hardwar, the to break up the demonstration.

21 victims were crushed to death in a stampede on an overcrowded bridge, which was being used by more than 2 million devotees who had gathered to

take a dip in the Ganges river. The often frenzied worship by throngs of Hindus has led to tragedies in the past. In 1992, a stampede in the southern town of Kumbakonam during a religious holiday killed 50 people.

The worst stampede recently was two years ago at a demonstration in Nagpur of tribespeople demanding job quotas. About 120 people were killed and 500 injured when police tried

It's torrid work keeping a beady eye on these Afghans

FG 315 from New Delhi to Jalalabad is a Boeing 727 - but not the kind that carries an inflight magazine. The female passengers are shrouded in the Afghan burga, the cabin crew are mostly bearded, and the cardboard packet of lychee juice is stained with mud. Since the pilot's English was a little rusty, the chief steward walked to my seat, crouched in the aisle beside me and - as if revealing a long-held military secret whispered into my ear: "We'll he flying at a height of 31.000 feet." If only we had.

Approaching the old Soviet military airstrip at Jalalabad, the pilot turned almost 180 degrees, sending the blood pumping into our shoes, and touched down on the first inch of narrow tarmac - just in time to stop an inch from the end of the run-

Given the rusting Soviet radar dishes and the wrecked, tail-upended Antonov off the apron. you can understand why Jalaiabad Arrivals lacks some of the amenities of, say. Heathrow or

But it's more than just the runway. When I trudged through the heat with my bags. I found the bullet-scarred terminal empty. No immigration. No Customs. Not a single man with a single rubber stamp. Just six young and bearded

mixture of tiredness and suspicion. No number of cheery "Salaam Alcikum s" would elicit more than a muttering in Pashto from the six tacitum warriors. What was this alien, hatless creature doing here in Afghanistan with his brandnew camera bag and his canvas hold-all of shirts and newspaper clippings?
Taxi?" I asked them. And

they looked away from me. back at the great blue-andwhite bird which had jetted so dangerously into town. I hitched a ride with a French aid work-

They seem to be everywhere. Jalalabad is a dusty brown city of mud-and-wood houses, earthen streets and ochre walls, with the characteristic smell of charcoal and horse manure. There are donkeys and stallions and Indianstyle "velo-" rickshaws and Victorian bicycles and the occasional clapperboard shop-front, Dodge City transferred to

the subcontinent.
Two of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's local guerrilla commanders who turned up for their haircut at the same time last month shot dead the barber and a couple of

Afghans, four of them holding other men before deciding who rifles, who stared at me with a was first in the queue for a regular shave. One-third of all the children in Jalalabad hospitals are victims of joy-shooting at weddings.
It doesn't put the agencies off.

There is Save and the World Food Programme, UNDCP, Médécins sans Frontières. Madera, the International Red Cross, the Emergency Field Unit, the Sandy Gall Clinic for Orphaned Children, the Swedish Committee for Afghans, the UNHCR, and a German agronomist agency: and that's just the first few offices signposted off the highway to Kabul.

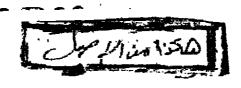
Finding the old Spin Ghar—White Mountain — Hotel is it scutters out of sight into the something of a relief. But, in the torment of midsummer heat, a roaring air-conditioner plays Catch-22 with me: to cool my empty double room I turn it on, but its tiger-like engine vibrates so loudly that sleep is impossible. When I turn to the only book beside my bed - Plain Tales from the Raj - the sweat runs down my arms and glues my fin-

gers to the pages. Then a rustle, a kind of faint, rasping sound comes from the silent conditioner. I sit up and, five feet from my face, I see the

dragon's head of a giant lizard looking at me from the cooled bars of the machine. When I raise my hand, the head disappears for a moment. Then it is back, a miniature armoured brontosaurus face that is followed now by a long, rubbery torso, grey-green in the dim afternoon sunlight, and big sucking feet that grip the plastic airconditioning vents. Like an old silent film, it moves in jerks One moment, I see its head. Then, at shutter's speed, half its length of heavily breathing rubberiness is out of the machine. A moment later, the whole half-foot of creature is suspended on the curtain above my bed, swaying on the material, alien and disturbing, looking back at me over its fortress-like shoulder.

drapery.Of course, I switched the air-conditioner on, swamping the room with a rush of splitting cold air. And I curled up on the further bed and watched for movement at the top of the curtain rod.

I was trightened of this thing and it was frightened of me. O nly after haif an hour did I realise that the bright screws on the curtain rail were its beady eyes. With rapt attention, we were watching each other



Bosnia elections: Block put on Serb Democratic Party until indicted leader stands down

Poll delayed to drive out Karadzic

TONY BARBER Europe Editor

International organisers yesterday postponed the start of official campaigning in Bosnia's first post-war elections in a renewed effort to drive Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, out of politics and public life.

Robert Frowick, the US official in charge of the 14 Sep-tember elections, said that he was delaying the start of the campaign until Friday to provide time for solving the Karadzie problem. He emphasised that he would not allow Mr Karadzic's ruling Serb Demo-cratic Party (SDS) to participate in the elections as long as the

United Nations indicted war criminal remained the SDS leader. The postponement coincided with a trouble-shooting visit to former Yugoslavia by Richard Holbrooke, the former US diplomat, who brokered last

year's Dayton peace settlement. US officials said Mr Holbrooke's priority would be to read the riot act" to Serbia's President, Slobodan Milosevic, who is widely viewed as having enough influence to secure Mr Karadzic's removal.

Mr Milosevic's relations with the Bosnian Serb leadership have been poor for more than three years, but he kept contact with Mr Karadzic and the Bosnian Serb military commander. General Ratko Mladic, also an

indicted war criminal. Mr Milosevic's aim appears to be a deal with Bosnian Serb leaders and the international community that would allow Mr Karadzie and Mr Mladie to slip quietly into retirement avoiding prosecution at

the UN tribunal in The Hague. However, it seems unlikely that Mr Milosevic will secure any guarantees of non-prosecution from Mr Holbrooke. since that would fly in the face of US government policy and the ex-diplomat believes firmthat the two Bosnian Serb leaders must stand trial. There is equally relentless pressure for a trial from the tribunal, which issued arrest warrants for Mr Karadzic and Mr Mladic last

week, and from Western gov- threats are increasing tension in ernments whose Bosnia policies would be discredited if the aders escaped justice with the West's connivance.

France said on Sunday that intended to ask the UN Security Council to authorise Nato forces in Bosnía to pursue and arrest indicted war criminals. Meanwhile, the ruling Bosnian Muslim SDA Party of the Bosnian President, Alija Izetbegovic, could boycott the elections if Mr Karadzic and Mr Mladic stay in power.

However, the police chief in Pale, Mr Karadzic's political base outside Sarajevo, has warned that the Bosnian Serbs will strike at Nato forces if the two leaders are arrested. Such the run-up to the election and underlining the difficulties of ensuring it will be free and fair.

Western governments have insisted that the elections should go ahead in mid-September on the grounds that postponement could cause the Dayton settlement to unravel. However, with Muslim, Croat and Serb nationalist parties dominant in areas populated by Muslims, Croats and Serbs respectively, there is a risk that the elections will reinforce Bosnia's de facto partition and prevent the restoration of a uni-

The chief aim of Mr Karadzic, who is still the dominant political figure in Republika

tary Bosnia-Herzegovina.

tor of Bosnia, is to consolidate his region's "statehood" and prevent Bosnia's re-emergence as a common state. Since this aim is shared by most other Bosnian Serb politicians, and a sizeable proportion of the Bosnian Serb people, it may make lit-tle difference if Mr Karadzio

plays no part in the election. Another obstacle to the implementation of the Dayton cords is the dispute over the Serb-held corridor of Breko in northern Bosnia. The Serbs want the corridor widened to strengthen the link between the two halves of Republika Srpska, but the Muslim-led government wants the entire territory for itself.

SIGNIFICANT SHORTS

A Hercules military cargo aircraft crashed yesterday at Eindhoven air-force base in the southern Netherlands, killing four and injuring dozens, Dutch television reported. The four-engine turboprop, thought to belong to the Belgian air force, crashed at around 6pm, but the circumstances of the crash were not immediately available. Eindhoven is the base for the Royal Durch Air Bases. Eindhoven is the base for the Royal Dutch Air Forces Squadron 334 of the US-made Hercules. Eindhoven ~ AP

Admirers of Ethiopia's murdered emperor Haile Selassic announced they were setting up a memorial fund to give the "King of Kings" an honourable burial. The emperor, who ruled Ethiopia for nearly 50 years, died in 1975 after being suffocated in his bed by Marxist army officers, who overthrew him in 1974, according to evidence presented at their trial. Addis Ababa - Renter

Nato has grounded military aircraft belonging to the Bosnian government after finding four anti-tank weapons and ammunition aboard a helicopter that should have been carrying passengers. A spokesman for the Nato peace force, Major Brett Boudreau, said the incident in the Muslim-controlled eastern town of Gorazde was a flagrant violation of a ban on weaponry outside closely monitored storage sites. Sarajevo - Reuter

Long Kong faces a battle in persuading European nations to grant visa-free entry to Hong Kong people after China recovers the British colony on 1 July next year, atter China recovers the Birtish colony on 1 July next year, according to the colony's governor, Chris Patten. "There is quite a hill for us to climb in Europe." Mr Patten said on his return from meetings in Brussels with EU officials and a visit to London. Hong Kong and China are lobbying nations worldwide to waive visa requirements. Hong Kong – AP

ran has tripled the number of missiles deployed on its Gulf coast, during the past two years, and is fitting Chinese-built cruise missiles on up to 20 of its naval boats, a senior US navy commander said. Vice Admiral John Scott Redd, Commander of the US Fifth Fleet and Commander, US Naval Forces, Central Command, said Iran's acquisition of radar guided C-802 anti-ship missiles was "a new dimension" in the regional naval threat. Dubai - Reuter

A four-hour strike by airport staff caused flight cancellations and delays for passengers at airports across Italy, and unions announced a one-day stoppage for 8 August. Staff of companies which operate Italy's airports called the strike to demand new contracts for the sector ahead of the planned privatisation of some state-controlled airports. Rome - Reader

Anew administrator for the troubled Bosnian city of Amostar was appointed by the EU. A Briton, Sir Martin Garrod, former chief of staff to the EU administration in Mostar, replaces the Spaniard, Ricardo Perez Casado, who held the job for less than three months. Sir Martin's appointment runs until the end of the year, when the EU hopes to wind up its mission in the city. Brussels - AP

German soldiers upset by the march of sexual equality fare demanding that women recruits be made to wear olive-drab underwear - instead of "anything fancier in white". Male soldiers are complaining they only get Nato standard-issue in olive drab, Claire Marienfeld, Germany's first ombudswoman for the military, told Der Spiegel. "But the women get an allowance of 450 marks (£200) every three years for white underwear," she said. Bonn - Reuter



and he is running for president of the Teamsters. Now this is 1996, not 1957, and the Hoffs in question is not a ghostly apparition of the man abducted and presumed murdered by the

But, in more ways than just a name, his son James Hoffa jnr is seeking to turn back the clock at America's largest and most notorious labour union.

The Teamsters convention, which opened in Philadelphia yesterday, is the first since 1991. when the then obscure Ron Carey was elected president with the backing of the federal government - and a mandate to clean out a union whose mob links and corruption were a national and international by-

Mr Carey has been as good as his word. He has purged hundreds of officials, closed suspect local branches, and created a strong central office in Washington. Now one of the most influential figures in US labour, he was a prime mover behind last year's coup that installed the reformer John Sweeney at the head of a reinvigorated AFL-CIO, the umbrella organisation of the US union movement.

ival @

But all is not well in Teamster ranks. A defiant old guard still resents Mr Carey's very presence, and accuses him of cabing in to employers in several



Jimmy Hoffa Snr: Last

recent contract agreements. Few defend the corruption presided over by Hoffa senior, who was last seen alive at a suburban Detroit restaurant in

Many, however, miss the power he and the union, then miltion strong, wielded. Hence the opportunity for his

son, a Detroit lawyer and Teamsters member for only three years, and referred to simply as "Junior" by the Carey camp. "Junior" claims to be a better manager and tougher negotiator, and vows to return power to the state and local branches. Mr Carey says he has the sup-

port to win, and a secret ballot of the 1,900 delegates on Thursday may prove it. But the final result will not be known until November, after a federally supervised postal vote of the 1.4 million rank-and-file members. Measured against their ex-

travagant past, today's Teamsters are a sober bunch. A former president, Jackie Presser, entered a convention in Las Vegas borne on a golden char-iot and clad as a Roman senator, to chants of "Hail Caesar". Mr Carey has cut his own salary one-third to \$150,000 (£100,000) and sold the union's

two private jets and limousine. Today, only one Teamster in 10 drives one of the trucking bebemoths that rule America's interstate highways, and fully one-third of the union's members are women.



358 billionaires own nearly half the planet's wealth

followed by the US, Japan, the

Netherlands and Norway.

Britain is ranked 16th, below

many of its EU partners in-

The focus of the report, however, is on the worsening posi-tion of many of the developing

countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. Eighty-nine

countries are reporting lower per capita incomes than they

were 10 years ago. Worst off are

19 countries where incomes

are less than they were in 1960 or before. They include Liberia,

1920-90 ____

and developed courties

cluding France and Spain.

DAVID USBORNE

The world's rich are getting richer by the day, while the poor are getting poorer. Moreover, according to a new United Nations report, the wealth gap is widening not just as between different nations of north and south but within many of them, including Britain. Among the more startling

conclusions of the 1996 Human Development Report, prepared by the UN Development Programme (UNDP), is that the world's 358 billionaires, including such notables as the Sultan of Brunei and Bill Gates, the founder of Microsoft, have more assets than the combined incomes of countries representing nearly half - 45 per cent of the planet's population.

"The world has become more economically polarised," said James Speth, the UNDP administrator. "If present trends continue, economic disparities between industrial and developing nations will move from inequitable to inhuman." The report, compiled by Richard Jolly, a Briton who is special advisor to Mr Speth, will be published by the Oxford University

6 4 2 0

OECD.

Letin America and Carribes

In analysing trends within developed countries, the re-Rwanda, Sudan, Ghana, Venezuela and Haiti. port singles out Britain and Australia for displaying growing economic injustice between the Among countries in the de-

veloping world, Hong Kong takes first place on the HDI followed by Cyprus, Barbados, Bahamas, South Korea and Arhaves and have-nots. In both countries, the richest 20 per cent gentina. Bottom place is taken of their populations earn 10 times more money than the the poorest 20 per cent. The dif-This year the report adds a rential is almost as sharp in the

"capability poverty measure" United States and Switzerland. designed to take account of hid-Published annually since den factors that may be 1990, the report also offers impeding the poor from progressing up the economic lad-der. Those include the number what it calls a human development index (HDI), which ranks countries according to criteria of children under five who are that include quality of life facunderweight, the proportion of tors such as access to health unattended births, the number care, educational standards and of children in school and rate basic purchasing power. This of female illiteracy. year Canada takes first position

Using this index, for instance, suggests that whereas in some south Asian countries like India, 29 per cent of the population may be living in poverty when income alone is mea-sured, a much more significant 62 per cent is suffering conditions that make escaping poverty much more difficult.

The report also seeks to emphasise that economic growth in countries alone will not automatically translate into improved lives for their populations unless other policy measures to encourage economic equity are taken simultaneously. compares the contrasting fates of Pakistan and South Korea. Both countries had similar incomes in 1960, but whereas Pakistan managed a primary school enrolment rate of just 30 per cent, Korea ensure that 94 per cent of its young attended primary education. "That is one reason that the per capita gross domestic product of Korea grew to three times that of Pakistan over the next 25 years,

the report argues.

Mr Jolly said: "Policy makers are often mesmerised by the quantity of growth. They need to be more concerned with its quality and to take timely action to prevent growth that is lopsided or flawed." He added: "It is increasingly clear that new international measures are needed to encourage national strategies for employment increasing and human development."

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After years of hostility, Washington is to open an office in Pyongyang and forge closer diplomatic ties

US aims to go

behind North

Korean lines

RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

Forty-three years after the end of the Korean War, the United States is close to opening a representative office in North Korea, the last of the old Stalinist regimes and one of America's few remaining Cold War enemies. The opening of a diplomatic office would mark a historic shift, after years of implacable hostility on both sides.

According to officials of international organisations re-

Korea, the US state department has already assembled a team of Korean-speaking specialists in Seoul, and is likely to open a liaison office in the North Korean capital, Pyongyang, by the end of the year. The two sides are already negotiating the small print of the agreement, including where the American diplomats will stay, and the consular protection extended to their families. The biggest obstacle appears to be South Korea: the announcement must be presented in such a way as to avoid humiliating the Seoul govern-ment which has resisted the increasingly close ties between

Washington and Pyongyang.

The opening of the mission will be a coup for the North Korean government which has for years been seeking closer ties with the US, since the collapse of communism in Russia and Eastern Europe deprived it of its trading partners and left it ideologically and diplomatically

In 1993, the North provoked a crisis when it refused to let international inspectors visit two mysterious sites suspected of housing a nuclear weapons programme. The ensuing diplomatic panic turned out to the North's long-term advantage: in return for replacing its suspicious nuclear technology with safer foreign reactors, Pyongyang was rewarded with interim supplies of fuel oil and opportunities to talk to Amer-

ican officials and technicians. The US has always resisted Pyongyang's demands for direct peace negotiations, insisting that any revision of the 1953 Armistice, which brought to an end the Korean War, must be concluded between the two Koreas. But Pyongyang has been under increasing pressure since last year when disastrous floods last year caused

malnutrition, and raised fears that desperation might drive the North to some kind of military adventure. "In order to maintain stability." the US Ambassador to Seoul, James Laney, said in May, "we need to begin now to build an edifice of positive relationships that can complement and take us beyond

At a summit meeting in May. Bill Clinton and the South Ka rean President, Kim Young Sam, proposed four-way peace talks involving the US and China as well as the two Koreas. The US appears to be awaiting some kind of positive response to this proposal before pressing ahead with its plan to dispatch diplomats to the North, thus allowing President Kim to save face by claiming that he has brought his old enemies to the

negotiating table.
Officially, the Pyongyang mission will be an "American Interests Section" in the Swedish embassy, although it will be staffed by US state department officials and will perform many of the duties of an official embassy, including the issuing of visas. The Swedish embassy was recently scaled down after budget cuts and is being restored to diplomatic strength to accommodate the Americans under a neutral flag. According to official sources, the Americans are hoping to reside in the

former East German embassy. Other subjects being negotiated include the route which the American emissaries will take from Seoul to Pyongyang. At the moment, travellers must take a detour via Peking, but discussions are in progress about opening the land border between the two Koreas. Another problem concerns the wives of the state department's diplomats: several of them are South Korean, whose presence in Pyongyang could

be diplomatically sensitive. widespread food shortages and **EU** threatens trade war over anti-Cuba laws

SARAH HELM

European Union foreign ministers yesterday prepared for a full-scale trade war against Washington, including the pos-sibility of blocking free travel from the US to Europe. The move towards sanctions forms part of an escalating dispute sparked by America's anti-Cuba

Among the measures discussed in Brussels yesterday were retaliatory trade mea-sures against the US, freezing of US assets, and the imposition of visas for US businessmen visiting Europe. The EU has also discussed an appeal to the World Trade Organisation.

However, foreign ministers last night appeared unwilling to detail the weapons they will deploy before a decision from President Bill Clinton, expected late today, on whether to suspend the most controversial part of the legislation, known as the Helms-Burton Act.

In a rare show of unity ves-terday all EU countries round-ed on the Act, which aims to squeeze Cuba by penalising foreign companies who trade with it. Under the law, Cuhan exiles who have American citizenship, would be able to sue foreign companies in the US courts if they possess evidence that those companies have had certain business dealings with

the Castro regime. In particular, Helms-Burton gives Cuban-Americans the right to sue foreign firms which deal in property expropriated after the 1959 revolution which brought Fidel Castro to power

The measure is the latest effort by the US to isolate Cuba economically. However, it has caused outrage in Europe and among Cuba's other trad-ing partners, such as Canada and Mexico.

SAINSBURY'S

PICK UP

Yesterday, Jacques Santer, President of the European Commission, promised a swift response. We must react and must react today. he said. Mr Clinton has the power to use a waiver to suspend the part of the act which is most offensive to America's trading partners.

However, Mr Santer predicted yesterday that "it was more than likely the US will confirm full implementation".

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, said: "There is no doubt we are united in opposition to this." Herve de Charette, his French counterpart, told journalists: "It is clear that this law is directly contrary to the rules which govern interna-tional trade."

Although the EU looks certain to decide on joint sanctions if the waiver is not exercised, such joint action could take some time to take effect. An appeal to the WTO to arbitrate in the dispute could take months. In the meanting individual countries made clear yesterday that they would impose unilateral counter-measures against the US.

A decision to withhold visas from visiting US businessmen would be taken by individual countries, immediately hitting. US interests and causing chaos for transatlantic trade. Mr Rifkind and Mr de Charette are already considering enforcing national legislation under which US husinesses and assets could

Britain may enforce the 1980 Protection of Trading Interests Act, which was specifically designed to block attempts by other countries to damage UK trading interests abroad. Under the Act. the British govern-ment could direct British citizens not to cooperate with demands from US courts over the anti-Cuba legislation. should those demands prejudice UK sovereignty.



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Eyes front: An Albanian platoon marching past three US helicopters to join Peaceful Eagle '96 near Tirana. The Albanians are undergoing

ercises with the United States, Bulgaria, Romania, Italy, Slovenia, Greece and Turkey



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Christopher Casson

What is it like to have been born in a trunk? A trunk moreover belonging to one of the century's most endearingly dominant classical actresses? Few knew better than Christopher Casson, the younger son of Dame Sybil Thorndike and Sir Lewis Casson

It was at once the best and, in some ways, the worst of worlds. For although the parents took an impressive and encouraging delight in all their children's activities and would never consciously direct their ca-reers towards the theatre, they themselves were so absorbed by it as leaders of their profession that however much they tried to steer them clear of its hazards their children and grandchildren usually got caught up in it.

Known always to his elder brother John as "Kiff" because his name was such a job to pronounce young Christopher was also intended for the Navy, and duly went to the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth between the wars and became a mithipman in the Atlantic Fleet. But when he realised what active service might entail in combat he knew he could not go through with it; and so did his captain, who wrote to his parents: "I don't think your son is cut out for the Navy. I feel you should take him out of it or you may do him real harm."

So he was duly withdrawn.
And soon found himself back on the classical stage. Back? Well. of course he was no stranger to the boards.

From infancy he and brother John would contribute to Shakespearean crowds at the Old Vic, in, say, Julius Caesar (at the age of three), or appear with their parents in Medea or The Trojan Women. It was part of their education, and the economy of theatrical life.

they would have to sit out front. Kiff was eight when his mother addressed them both one teatime on the art of Grand Guignol at which she and her husband were as adept as they were at Euripides.

What was Grand Guignol? Sybil Thorndike explained. It consisted of short plays: There'll be lots of exciting murders and crimes and all sorts of other terribly quirky things. And everyone will be ter-rified. Then we'll do one or two funny ones in the middle to let them get their breaths back and then more horrors,

"Uncle Russell's going to come too and he can frighten anyone!" (This referred to her actor-brother Russell Thorndike.) "It'll be just like the plays he and I used to do in the attic when we were children. Lots of blood and agony!

"I'm not sure if we'll be able to let you see them all because you'll have awful nightmares. But you like being frightened a bit, don't you? It's such fun!" So the boys took deep

breaths and watched their uncle being frightened to death in a darkened waxwork exhibition, their mother strangling a lecherous old colonel or being strangled herself as a cocotte or crushed to death in a room with a hydraulic press for a ceiling or her lover being thrown to a pack of wolfhounds and her corpse being brought back to life by an electrical machine - all under the ingenious direction of Lewis

Were the boys intolerably scared? Only once. When their mother was being made into a corpse on one end of the telephone while her husband listened to its transformation

If the boys had no parts then ble through the pass-door

backstage.
After his return to civilian life, or rather the stage, Kiff enrolled at the formidable though motherly Elsie Fogerty's Central School of Dramatic Art at the Albert Hall.

Young Casson was to get a training for the stage such as any modern actor ought to envy; touring the United States for a year with the Sir Ben Greet company in Shakespeareau repertory and Egypt, Australia and New Zealand with his parents in the classics.

He played Oswald to Sybil Thorndike's Mrs Alving in Ghosts, the Messenger to her Medea in Euripides' tragedy, and the Inquisitor to her famous St Joan; and even, when required because the scenery had not turned up, the south bank of the Loire in Act Three. Wrapped in a strip of canvas upstage, Casson silently suffered the actor playing Dunois to sit and stand on him until the wind changed in one of Shaw's best stage directions.

It was all good training but he seemed always to be acting under the shadow of his parents. So he did stints in rep at Liverpool, York, and Perth from 1933 to 1935 before returning to the Old Vic, where critics praised his Old Rowley in The School for Scandal, his "beautifully played Gloucester" in King Lear, and the "exquisite delivery" of his Priest in the first entire performance in English of Peer Gynt.

But he was still acting "in the family"; and never more so than on a tour as the Hippolytus of Euripides with Sybil Thorndike (the Nurse), his sister Ann Casson (Phaedra) and his father directing and playing on the other, they agreed to various parts. Here his powers of dramatic speech came comvarious parts. Here his powers



Casson: 'Flyaway tweeds and a butcher-blue shirt that made his eyes look as dazzling as his mother's

pellingly into their own, as they did again as the Third Priest in T.S. Eliot's Munder in the Cathedral (Old Vic, 1937) which he went on to play in New York.

Not until he auditioned in London however in 1938 for Micheal Mac Liammoir and Hilton Edward of Dublin's highly independent Gate Theatre Company, which prided itself on an international rather than Irish repertoire, did Casson feel at last a sense of acting in his own right. The two Englishmen who had turned the Gate company into one of Europe's most fashionable troupes were looking for a sensitive actor to play the guiltridden suicidal son Orin in O'Neill's Mourning Becomes Electra, and a leading man for

younger roles.

When Casson appeared in
flyaway tweeds and butcherblue shirt that made his eyes as dazzling as his mother's", they

knew they had found the right man. According to the Irish Times, he could have passed for an Irish boy.

He could play the harp. He could sing Irish songs; and he took such delight in Dublin life that he married an Irish stage designer, Kate O'Connell (Mac Liammoir was best man), was received into the Roman Catholic Church, and in 1946 became an Irish citizen. "My father was part Scottish and

my mother part Welsh. I've always felt attuned to the Celtic tradition.

As Mac Liammoir once remarked: "Christopher and Kay have a trick of looking at things through the eyes of childhood. Their work is intoxicated with gaiety as a bee is intoxicated with honey.'

For the Gate or Dublin's Gaiety, Casson came into his own as Cassius in Julius Caesar, Worthing in The Importance of

Being Earnest, Macduff in Macbeth, Chekhov's Uncle Vanya, Captain Shotover in Heartbreak House, Gayev in The Cherry Orchard, Rosmer in Rosmersholm, Dr Wangel in The Lady from the Sea and (his voice more compelling than ever) the Messengers in the Occlipus of Sophocles and The Bacchae of Euripides.

Once or twice he returned to London. For example he proved one of the nicest Duncans to Alec Clunes's Macbeth and Margaret Rawlings's Lady M (Arts, 1950); and he acted from time to time at the Abbey and with the Gate company in Paris.

For the Dublin Theatre Festival he played in the 1960s Brabantio to Mac Liammoir's lago and the Afro-American William Marshall's Othello which went on to tour Europe; and in the 1970s he directed in Dublin several revivals of Shaw, ever the Cassons' favourite "modern" dramatist.

He became a familiar face on Irish television, especially as an affable rural person in The Riordans; and his films included Captain Lightfoot and Shake Hands With the Devil.

Apart from teaching dra-matic speech to Irish priests at All Hallows' College, he gave harp recitals on the wireless, directed and recorded in 1963-64 the principal parts in 14 Spoken Arts records of Shakespeare; and only last year celebrated 80 years on the boards by dancing a nightly gavotte as Sir William Lucas in a Gate Theatre revival of Pride and Prejudice.

Adam Benedick

Christopher Thorndike Casson, actor: born Prestwich, Manchester 20 January 1912; married 1941 Kate O'Donnell (deceased; two daughters); died Dublin 9

Clifford Blumfield

If, as many of us still believe, the Fast Breeder Reactor or a variant of it eventually comes good, the name of Clifford Blumfield will be honoured in the technical history of nuclear power. Blumfield was an enthusiast for the potential of Fast Breeder Reactors, though he never made fanciful claims, and scornful of the "cheap" power-roundthe-corner brigade.

Members of Parliament, eiuser under the auspices of party energy groups or those of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, would go in groups to the Dounreay atomic establishment, near Thurso, escorted by Lord Penney, the chairman of the Atomic Energy Authority, and be welcomed by Blumfield, first between 1968 and 1972 as assistant director of operations, then as deputy director until 1975, when he succeeded Peter Mummery to become director himself. He retired in 1987.

It was crucial to Blumfield's unusual career that Penney knew him from post-war Harwell days where Blumfield had been a senior design engineer on Britain's first two Materials Test Reactors, Dido and Pluto. Penney thought highly both of Blumfield's engineering and leadership qualities. The work on Dido and Pluto proved to be of enormous importance to medical advance, providing radioactive isotope sources for the treatment of cancer patients.

When faced with numerous power Blumfield would gently



Blumfield: nuclear energy

point out that it had given birth to diagnostic medical practices which benefited far more people than were ever harmed by nuclear radiation. Shortly after Penney died in 1991 Blumfield said to me: "I owed him the seniority I attained in my career because, never forget, I was not a university graduate and the AEA abounded in brilliant

The 1970s was a time of hope and belief in which Britain led the world in Fast Breeder technology. From my visits to Dounreay one recollection of Blumfield stands out - that he was passionately concerned with safety and safe working practices and that, whatever the future of the Fast Breeder, there would be no lurking prospect of nuclear catastrophe. Practical engineer that he was, Blumfield inspired confidence that a disaster of enormous and vociferous critics of nuclear proportions could not occur on our own north coast -

though Dounreay had been sited where it was to mitigate the effects of any possible accident. At Dounreay, eight miles

west of Thurso on the north-east coast of Scotland, Mummerv and Blumfield gathered a talented team around them -Blumfield was a good chooser of people - and devised safety practices which were adopted throughout the British nuclear industry. His particular confidence in the Fast Breeder Reactor stemmed from the fact that the system did not depend on pressure vessels to the extent that the Magnox Reactor did, let alone the Soviet and early American systems. Before devoting himself to its cause, Blumfield had advocated the Canadian Candu system and was an admirer of the work of his Canadian colleagues at Chalk River, and the Pickering

power station, both in Ontario. Clifford Blumfield pulled himself up by his own proverbial boot straps. Educated at Ip-swich Boys' Central School, he was apprenticed to the firm of Reavell and Co, to whom he was always grateful for a rigorous early training. In 1944 he gained a commission in REME (Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers) and saw service in Europe attached to the Royal Scots Greys. As soon as he was demobilised he went to Harwell and then in 1958 was posted to the AEA establishment at Winfrith in Dorset. There be worked on the design of the

Hannay), novelist, 1865; Roald

Amundsen, Polar explorer, 1872;

er on the Dragon project, a high temperature reactor financed by the OECD which went into operation in 1966 but was brought to a close in the 1970s

long after Blumfield had left.
John Young, Convenor of
Caithness District Council, said of Clifford Blumfield: "His openness and honesty and his ability to meet and mix with people of all walks of life endeared him to the people of his adopted country of Caithness. Blumfield gave the best years of his life to Dounreay, and the recent rundown hurt him deeply. While he contributed so much to the nuclear industry, his interest was far beyond that, and he often surprised me with how much he knew about mundane matters of farming and fishing."

Many senior managers on retirement desert a remote location. Not so Blumfield. He and his family fell in love with the Thurso region and Blumfield contributed to its social and sporting life both when he was working and in his retirement. I am told that he "introduced" squash and tennis to

Tam Dalyeli Clifford William Blumfield, nuclear engineer: born Ipswich 18 May 1922: Assistant Director, Operations and Engineering, Downreay Nuclear Power Development Establishment 1968-72, Deputy Director 1972-75; Director 1975-87: OBE 1976: married Jeanne Bird 1944 (one son, one daugh-SGHW (Steam Generating ter and one son decea Heavy Water Reactor) and lat- Thurso 11 July 1996. ter and one son deceased); died

Professor Clifford Parker

Studying law with Clifford Parker was demanding, but it was never dull. Although he always encouraged students to participate in his lectures, and was courteous with their limitations or mistakes, the sheer power, speed and provisioning of his mind could be alarming. Moreover, he liked to let his enthusiasm for whatever he was teaching come across in a forceful style of delivery which he

Parker was one of that generation of gifted young people whose natural and expected progression from school to university and thence to a glittering career was rudely interrupted by the Second World War. In his case the interruption marked him physically, but also matured his attitude, as he

would later claim. At Cardiff High School his abilities in modern languages, and as a mesmerising spin bowler and sound batsman, were particularly noted. On going up to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, he read Modern Languages in Part I of the Tripos, only turning to the study of Law in Part II, but continuing at postgraduate

influence of legal education through his work on the Education Committee of the Law Society, he was able without contradiction to insist on the value to the legal professions of a mix of graduate entrants, most having pure law degrees, but some with degrees in, or combined with, other disciplines.

hwyl of a Welsh revivalist

This background had two significant influences on his later career, First, his linguistic skills allowed him to play a prominent part in the post-war development of international networks of academic and practising lawyers. Secondly, in his Parker: Intellectual shock

During the war he served

with the Royal Air Force, where

his fluency in German and mself often compared to the French caused him to be posted as a monitor of continental and naval radio communications to an isolated and desolate listening station on Cape Wrath in the north-west of Scotland. Here, the rigours of the North Atlantic winters led him to contract severe tuberculosis. This left him, after operations and many months in hospital, with only one, damaged, lung. Henceforward, nor-mal physical exertions or rapid

recovery from winter coughs and colds - and at times even

breathing itself - were not things he could take for granted as others do. He particularly regretted, perhaps, the inevitable curtail-

ment of his cricketing prowess. However, he said that the months of enforced reflection had given him a deep sense of what is important in life and what is not, of sympathy with the disadvantaged, but also awareness that suffering could be fought and overcome. No doubt this experience contributed to what his colleagues and students perceived as his objective wisdom in personal matters and legendary impartiality in administration. On recovery, he married

Christine Knowles in 1945, and was admitted as a solicitor in 1947. However, the academic bent of his intellect and his discovery of a love of teaching led him to abandon the full-time practice of law to become a lecturer in law at Birmingham University from 1951, rising to the roles of Senior Tutor and Assistant Director of Studies in his faculty by 1957.

In that year he was appointed to the position for which he will be best remembered: holder of the Bracton Chair of English Law and Head of the Department of Law in the newly independent (1955) Exeter University. These positions he held with distinction until his retirement 28 years later. During this period his department grew, in terms of student numbers, to 10 times its original size, and from obscurity

to prestige with the legal professions. Parker served as Deputy

Vice-Chancellor of Exeter University in 1963-65, and as its Public Orator in 1977-81. He was elected Chairman of the Society of Public Teachers of Law in 1974-75. He was appointed a magistrate in 1969, and sat regularly, mostly on the Exmouth Bench, for some 20 years. In 1978 he was appointed Chairman of the Supple mentary Benefit Appeal Tribunal for the Exeter area, in which he also continued after his retirement from the university.

Generations of Exeter law graduates remember with affection and gratitude his kindly but firm and all-pervasive leadership of his department. They also remember, mostly with some awe, the intellectual shock, stimulus, and excitement of his lectures in Contract Law to the first year, often the first classes experienced at university level.

David L. Perrott

Clifford Frederick Parker, solicitor and legal scholar: born Cardiff 6 March 1920; Lecturer in Common Law, Birmingham University 1951-57, Senior Tutor and Assistant Director of Legal Studies, Faculty of Law 1956-57; Bracton Professor of Law and Head of the Department of Law, Exeter University 1957-85 (Emeritus), Deputy Vice-Chancellor 1963-65, Public Orator 1977-81; married 1945 Christine Knowles (two daughters); died Exmouth 5 July 1996.

Births, Marriages & Deaths

BIRTHS

MORRIS: On 8 July 1996, at Riverside Hospital, Ottawa, to Alison (née Warng) and Richard, a daughter, Ju-lia Frances Elizabeth

STEPHENSON: In Oxford on 10 July, to Lottie (née Hoare) and Jonathan, a son, Hamish.

AGAR: John Newton Agar, retired Reader in Physical Chemistry, University of Cambridge, Fellow Emeritus, Sidney Sussex College, Inriband of Delia Margaret Agar, Fellow Emerita, Newnham College, Died in Cambridge on 11 July 1996.

Announcements for Gazette RIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS should be MARRIAGES & DEATHS should be sent in writing to the Gauette Editor. The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E145DL, telephoned to 0171-293 2011 or found to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

RGAL ENGAGEMENTS RGOM L. EINGAGASHEN 25

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Changing of the Guard

Birthdays

Professor Anita Brookner, art his-torian and novelist, 58; Mr Alan Campbell-Johnson, public relations consultant, 83; Mr Phillip Carrick, cricketer, 44; Mrs Margaret Court, tennis player, 54; Mr Alan Donnel-ly, MEP, 39; Mr Frank Field MP, 54; ly, MEP, 39; Mr Frank Fresh Mr. 34; Professor Sir Hugh Ford, mechani-cal engineer, 83; Sir John Freeland QC, former legal adviser, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 69; Sir Charles Graham Bt, former Lord-Lientenant of Combria, 77; Mr Brian Howard, former deputy chairman, Marks & Spencer, 70; Miss Shirley Hughes, author and illustrator, 69; Baroness Llewelyn-Davies of Hastoe, Deputy Speaker, House of Lords, 81; The Ven Dr Harold Lockley, former Archdeacon of Loughborough, 80; Mr Thomas Megaby, MEP, 67; Mr Edward Miller, former Master of Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, 81; Sir Michael Morland, High Court judge, 67; Lord Prentice, former government minister, 73; Professor Sir Philip Randle, biochemist, 70; General Bernard Rogers, former Supreme Allied Commander, Enrope, 75; Mr Tom Rosenthal, publisher, 61; Mr John Warr, former president, MCC, 69; Miss Diana Warwick, trade union leader, 51; Dr. Trevor Williams, scientific consultar 75; Sir George Young MP, Transport Secretary, 55; Mr Frachas Zukerman.

Anniversaries

Births: Andrea del Sarto (Andrea Domenico d'Agnolo di Francesco), painter, 1486; Joseph Wilton, sculptor, 1722; Sir Joshua Reynold painter, 1723; Jean-Baptiste Camille Corot, painter, 1796; Mary Baker Eddy, founder of the Church of Christ, Scientist, 1821; George A. Birmingham (The Rev James Owen

Ginger Rogers (Virginia Katherine McMath), actress and dancer, 1911. Deaths: Anne of Cleves, fourth wife of Henry VIII, 1557; François-Michel Le Tellier, Marquis de Louvois, statesman, 1691; Josiah Spode, pot-ter, 1827; Edmond-Louis Antoine Huot de Goncourt, novelist, 1896; William Hamilton Gibson, illustra-tor, author and naturalist, 1896; Sir Victor Alexander Haden Honsley, physician, 1916; Joseph Hilaire Bel-loc, author, 1953; John Phillips Marquand, novelist, 1960. On this day: Brennus and the Gauls defeated the Romans at Allia, 390 BC; the Muslim Era began when Mahomet began his flight from Mecca to Medina (The Hejira), 622; Captain John Gilbert patented the first dredger in Britain, 1618: the first banknotes in Europe were issued by the Bank of Stockholm, 1661; Sir Henry Havelock arrived at the Bantle of Cawnpore, 1857; the Tsar of Russia (Nicholas II) and all his family were murdered Bolsheviks at Ekaterinburg (Sverdiovsk), 1918; the world's first parking meters were installed in Oktahoma City, United States, 1935; the first atomic test bomb was exploded at Los Alamos, New Mexico, 1945; the Mont Blanc road tunnel, between France and Italy, was opened, 1965; the Bill to abolish the Greater London Council received Royal Assent, 1985; British Airways and British Caledonian accounced plans for a £37m merger, 1987. Today is the Feast Day of St Athenogenes, St Enstain is to American Fuhad, St Helier, St Mary Magnalon Postel St Remeits.

Lectures

National Gallerys Rames Barnes. Depaster Depaster La La Line
Compe Fernancia . 17...

Victoria and Albert Museum; Linda Parry, "William Morris: domestic decoration", 2.30pm. Tate Gallery: Joost Declercq, "Hans Hartung: work, life and attitudes", British Museum: Rowena Loverance, "Byzantine Icons", 1.15pm. National Portrait Gallery: John

Cooper, "Van Dyck's Portrait of

Lord George Stuart, Seigneur d'Anbigny", 1.10pm. Luncheons

Foreign and Com realth Office Sir Nicholas Bonsor Bt MP, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, hosted a larewell lunch held yesterday at Lancaster House, London SW1, in bonour of Señor Edmundo Nanne, Ambassador of the Republic of Gnatemala.

European-Atlantic Group Baroness Birk presided over the Annual Luncheon of the Ladies Committee of the European-Atlantic Group held yesterday evening in the House of Lords, London SW1. Baroness Dunn spoke on "The Future of Hong Kong". Baroness Hooper and Baroness Scear also spoke.

Receptions Lord Mayor of Westminster

The Lord Mayor of Westminster, Mr Robert Davis, and the Lady Mayoress, Miss Carole Franco, gave a reception yesterday evening at the Westminster Council House, London SW1, in honour of the Captain and crew of HMS Restminster, Among

those present were: Commander Andrew Campron RN Com-Many College, RMS Reinmester, Mr. Many Copies Leader of Westmester Company of Many Matter, Worshofel Company of Resources and Lightenson.

Provisional decision did not bind parties LAW REPORT

and another: Chancery Division (Mr Justice Lightman) 13 June 1996

The nature of an application for an interlocutory injunction was such as to give rise to a provisional rather than a final determination of the parties' rights, so the court's decision on such an application could not create an issue estoppel.

Mr Justice Lightman allowed an appeal by the plaintiffs, Mats Arne Olof Wilander and Karel Novacek, against decisions of Master Moncaster, on 19 and 24 April 1996, striking out paragraph 40 of their statement of claim and refusing them leave to add further claims in their action against the defendants. Brian Tobin, president, and David Judge, honorary treasurer of the International

Tennis Foundation.

The plaintiffs, both professional tennis plavers, faced disciplinary proceedings for taking prohibited drugs. They alleged by para 40 of their claim that rule 53 of the ITF Rules, under which the disciplinary proceedings were instituted, was void as an unreasonable restraint of trade. An interlocutory injunction, restraining the ITF from pursuing the disci-

plinary proceedings pending tri-

16 July 1996 al of the action, was refused by

the judge on 19 March 1996, a lenge on restraint of trade decision affirmed by the Court must fail. of Appeal on 26 March 1996, on the ground that the claim was unarguable. On the defendants' application, the master then struck out para 40. He cation for interlocutory relief

also refused the plaintiffs leave to amend their statement of claim to plead that rule 53 contravened European law. Philip Engelman, Jacques Algazy and Joanne Briggs (Teacher Stern Selby) for the plaintiffs; Charles Flint QC and Christopher Stoner (Townleys) for its, there was an issue estoppel the defendants.

Mr Justice Lightman said the appeals raised two questions. First, whether it was right to strike out the plea of invalidity of rule 53 as an unreasonable restraint of trade on the ground that it was bound to fail. Second, whether in the court's discretion the plaintiffs should be allowed to plead the European law claims.

As to the first, the defendants argued that the Court of Appeal's decision created an issue estoppel precluding the plaintiffs any longer challenging the validity of rule 53 or alternatively constituted binding precedent inducing his Lordship to conclude that the chal-

To give rise to an issue estoppel, a decision must be final as to the parties' rights in issue. Could a decision on an appli-

be final for this purpose? The defendants argued that whether such a decision was provisional or final depended on the basis on which it was decided and if, as here, the application had been fully argued and the decision was on its mer-

to this effect. His Lordship disagreed. Whilst these factors might go to the weight of the decision as a precedent, the capacity of a decision to have effect as an issue estoppel must be determined by the nature of the application itself, not the language or terms of the decision, or the length of argument, upon it. The nature of the anplication must be such that it gave rise to a final rather than a provisional determination of the parties rights; that the parties were put on notice be-

fore the application was heard

that it might give rise to an

issue estoppel and that it was

out all the stops to prevent such an estoppel arising if their interests so required.

The nature of an application

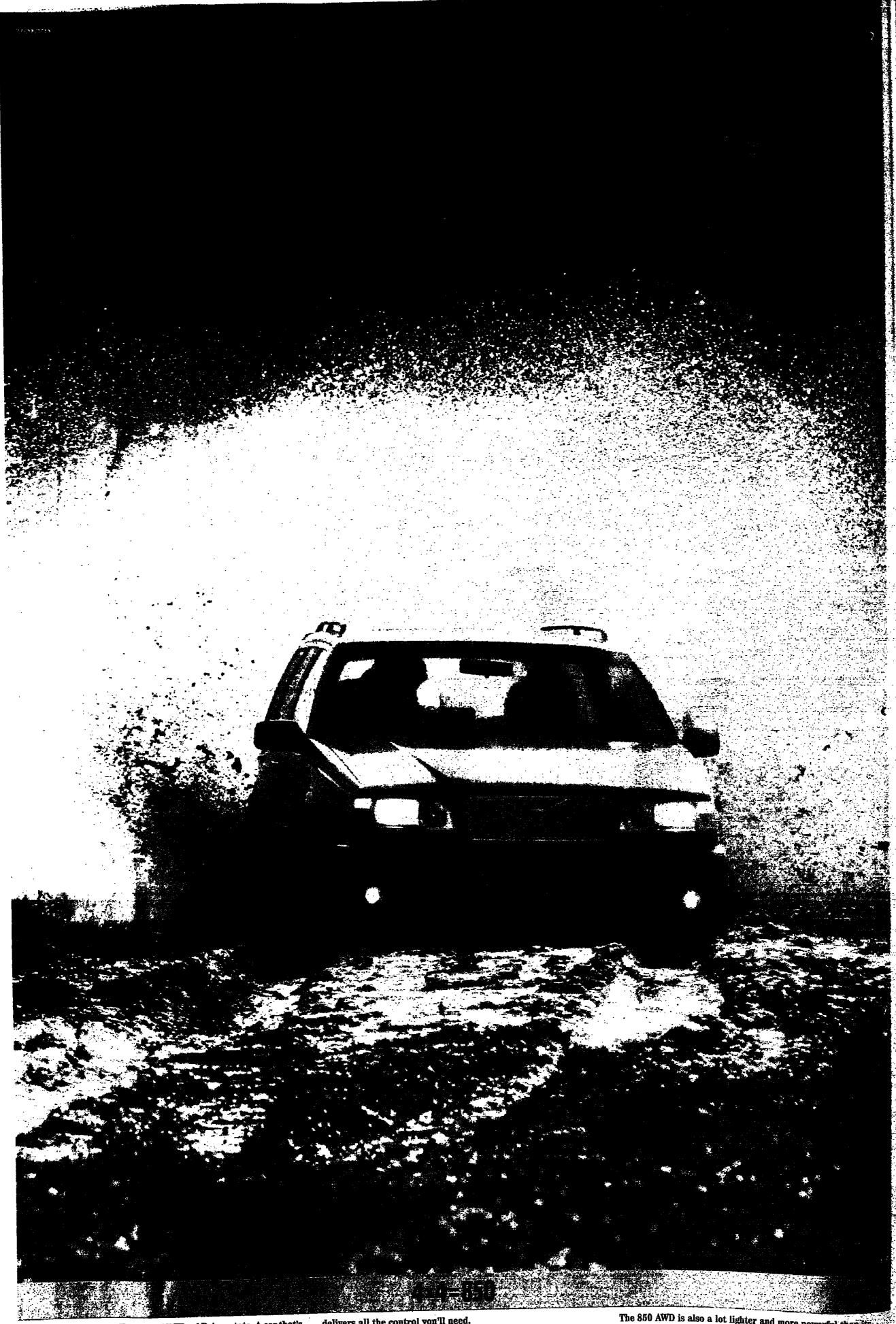
for an interlocutory injunction was that it gave rise to a provisional as opposed to a final determination of the parties' rights. The defendants' argument on issue estoppel must therefore be rejected.

Nevertheless, in his Lordship's view, the plaintiffs' case on the invalidity of rule 53 as pleaded was bound to fail and the master was right to strike His Lordship was, however.

prepared to allow the appeal. provided the plaintiffs sought leave to amend their claim by reference to a factor not initially relied on, namely the absence of any appeal procedure for a player under rule 53 and the requirement for such an appeal procedure under the Anti-Doping Convention of 1989. The same factor justified granting leave to amend the claim to plead that rule 53 was void as incompatible with article 59 of the EC Treaty, which provided that restrictions on freedom to provide services within the EC should be abolished. To that extent the appeal would be

Paul Magrath, Barrister





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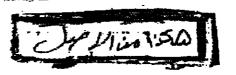
Off the road its self-activating four wheel drive system UTI THE FORM ILS SCH-RELANDED TO STATE CONTROL OF CORE OF PESS FOR MORE INFORMATION CORPECT AT THE TIME OF CORE TO PESS FOR MORE INFORMATION CORPECT AT THE TIME OF CORE TO PESS FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL BRIDE TO STATE CORP.

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The Irish peace that can only come from within

Yould it be that the peace process in Northern Ireland has been founded on a British and southern Irish mistake - the belief that the yast majority of people in the province are desperate for peace and reconciliation? This is a hard, unpleasant thought. It is much easier and safersounding to blame a few "men of violence" on either side. But it deserves, at least, to be considered.

For, in Northern Ireland, the trouble with the silent majority has been its stolid silence. People have delighted in the peace of the province during the ceasefire, and profited from it. They have strolled through central Belfast in a new atmosphere. They have applauded the sentiments of President Clinton, danced to Van Morrison and - some of them - looked forward to better lives built on new investment coming from abroad. Offered better times, they were pleased to accept. Who would not be? And when the IRA cr the UDA claim to speak on their ehalf, they flinch. Who would not?

There were never many peace protesters through the long years of suffering. Most people minded their own business, kept their heads down and their mouths shut. That is entirely natural - the human instinct for self-protection. In recent days, when the Orange lodges descended on Drumcree, there were no counter-demonstrations or angry public remonstrations from

Protestants in favour of compromise, or backing down, or finding another route. Again, that is hardly surprising.

But, at the same time, there has been little evidence that moderation and a desire for consensus has been winning much backing in the privacy of the voting booth. The moderate Alliance Party has always received derisory levels of support. As the province's most popular single politician. Ian Paisley can outvote less savagely anti-Catholic Unionist rivals on any day of the week. David Trimble, the brightest Unionist leader for a long time, gained his position partly because of his involvement in last year's "battle of Drumcree" and the enthusiasm of the Unionist rank and file for that confrontation. The recent elections showed gains for Sinn Fein at the expense of the SDLP. This is hardly evidence of a basic support for compromise, from either community.

To make these points is not, in any way, to exculpate the politicians for a lack of leadership. Nor is it, in the spirit of Brecht, to suggest that the people of Northern Ireland have failed the governments and we must elect a new people. Politicians have failed, and their failures have helped create this crisis. The British government deserves to be blamed for blocking the Drumcree march, then backing down. If the Northern Ireland Office was not ready to face down mass loyalist protest, it ought not to have banned the march in



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

the first place. The excuse that ministers and police chiefs were taken aback by the scale of protest is bizarre: for nobody else was surprised.

In such situations - and few political events are as predictable as the Ulster marching season - government needs a strategy, a back-up plan and a lot of determination. In order to retain their authority against the demands of the streets, political leaders need to keep control of the bigger agenda and have some sense of direction. Our ministers didn't. They should not have pretended that the Drumcree decisions, which had huge political reverberations, were

purely a policing matter for Sir Hugh Annesley, chief constable of the RUC. However biased or mistaken politicians may be, they cannot be directly blamed for bombings, stonings, shootings and riot: the people responsible for those are the people who commit those acts, and those who incite them. But it is impossible to deny that serious political mistakes have been made.

If that is the case, why raise the question of the silent majority? Are not politicians chosen to take decisions? Yes, but the peace process has stumbled, then crashed to the ground, because the local politicians did not feel under suf-

torates to compromise. They were under intense pressure from everyone else-from Dublin, from London, from Washington, and from business generally. But crucially, none of them seems to have feared losing the support of "their" people - or, to put it another way, that divided but silent majority.

How much of that silent majority, we wonder, is at least half pleased to see

the Orangemen march or, on the other side, to see Gerry Adams back in menacing mode? How many of the voters of Northern Ireland want it both ways? How many want peace and prosperity, guaranteed by the state, but also privately want a uncompromising political leaders who are ready violently to confront the state? How many condemn but also hug themselves privately? Public money has poured into Northern Ireland from Britain, and many middle-class Unionists as well as nationalists live well there, beyond the reach of the troubles. But few have repaid the state to which they profess loyalty, by trying to change the politics of the province for the better.

Many people in Northern Ireland, reading this analysis, will feel hurt, bewildered and even outraged. But the feeling outlined here is widespread in Britain. If it is wrong then it can be refuted. How? Recent letter-writers to the Independent, including one today, show the way. Northern Ireland needs

ficient pressure from their own elec- a new politics - agitation, organisation and militancy, from Strabane to Newry and from Coleraine to Newtownards, on behalf of moderation and compromise. It is not enough for people to blame the failings of their leaders; in that case, find new leaders, vote out the old ones, change the parties themselves. That is democracy, and therein lies the only hope of democratic progress. Northern Ireland cannot be made peaceful or safe by outsiders.

Once more unto the breach, Asterix

Relations with our French neigh-bours have been tetchy of late. The French political classes are far more Euro-federalist than their British counterparts. But now a new Anglo-French collaboration has been launched with massive implications for the world.

Not aircraft or rockets - but Asterix. The plucky Gaul is back, thanks to the Brits. Where French fans failed, British enthusiasts persuaded the author Albert Underzo to write one more book.

Good news for cross-Channel relations. But what does it mean? Asterix and Co were the last outpost against Eurofederalism, Roman style - could the Asterix revival be a subtle Anglian plot to incite Gallic rebellion once more?

Ulster shame, **British** impatience

Sir: As an Ulsterwoman I am deeply ashamed to belong to a community which, while professing loyalty to the British government, has flouted public order. The contempt shown by the Orange

Order is reaping a bitter harvest. It is a disheartening situation for the many who have tried to encourage a more rational attitude between the people who live in this province. Surely it is time to exert pressure on political leaders who are so out of touch with public opinion in the UK. There, as I Arnow from my personal contacts, feelings are hardening against those who, by ren compromise, increase the everspiralling costs met by the British taxpayers. Such obstinacy is a hixury that those who live here can no longer afford, and no amount of hysterical emblems of patriotism can ever win against economic

factors. The summer marching scene is dreaded by many and has no place here, where survival depends on mutual respect. It is indeed ironic that in the week of the state visit of Nelson Mandela, a statesman who has risen above the wrongs of the past, there should have been this ugly example of people so entrapped in their past. Ponstewart, Co Londonderry

Sir. Following the latest Enniskillen bombing, the statement by Gerry Adams that there may have been some hint of Unionist or British government involvement in this atrocity (report, 15 July) beggars belief.

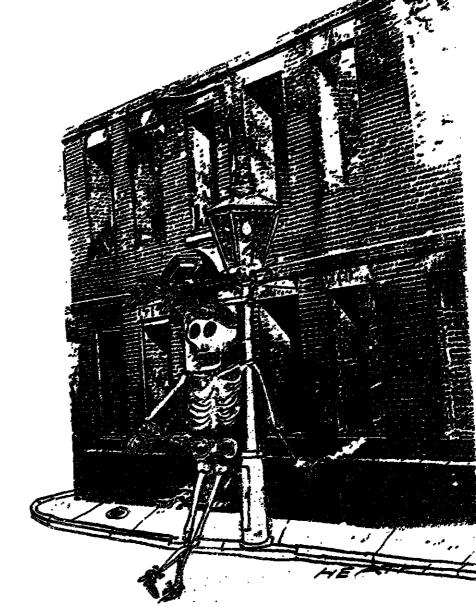
If Adams had seriously thought for one moment that there had been Unionist involvement in the bombing, he would have condemned it outright. The fact that he did not suggests that he republican splinter group, most likely a group over which he has no jurisdiction. He is clearly not the man who can deliver the terrorists.

It is time that the British and Irish governments faced up to the reality that Irish republicanism is incompatible with democracy.
When the two meet, one must give way. It is this belief that drives the terrorists onwards to their goal, a goal that looks all the more likely as mainland support for the democratic rights of the Unionist community to decide how they wish to be governed ebbs away. DR DAVID MCALPINE Nouingham

Sie Enough is enough. Northern liciand should now immediately be expelled from the United Kingdom. soldiers should be withdrawn. Engens of Northern Ireland should be considered foreigners and require visas to enter Great Britain. If the UN or any other body wishes to police Northern Ireland, let thein. Britain should have nothing further to do with Northern Ireland. Welwyn Garden Cir.; Hertfordshire

Sir: How comforting it was to glean from the Commons voting lists (12 July) that, despite all the turmoil taking place in Ireland last week, of the Ulster Unionist Party's nine MPs no fewer than five were still able to attend to their parliamentary duties, apply their minds to the broader interests of the Union and vote themselves a pay rise. PAUL BUTTLE





Long time, no see'

Royal adulterers and the church

Sir: What a pity that some prominent evangelical theologians have little sense of history ("Synod breaks church silence on royal divorce" 15 July); the Church of England sprang from the break-up of a royal marriage, and Prince Charles's ancestor George I was divorced when he came to the throne. Most male Supreme Governors of the Church of England have been adulterers, but have not undertaken the enormous amount of social and welfare work carried out by Prince Charles. Mrs JENNIFER MILLER London SW15

Ethical approach to charity law

Sir. Polly Toynbee's cogent critique of the religious aspects of charity law (15 July) includes a misleading reference to the South Place Ethical Society.

This organisation was never 'absurdly registered as a religion'; it had been automatically accepted as a charity because it began as a Christian congregation in 1793, and when it ceased to be Christian nearly a century later it continued to be a formally religious society and to be registered as a place of religious worship.

Its aim was never "to demolish belief in a God or a hereafter", but after it became an Ethical Society in 1888 it was changed from "the worship of one God" of its Universalist and Unitarian origins to "the study and dissemination of ethical principles and the

cultivation of a rational religious sentiment".

It had no need to register until the Charities Act of 1960, after which its registration as a place of religious worship was removed and its registration as a charity was refused on the ground that it was no longer genumely religious. In 1980, however, it was granted charity status by the Court of Chancery neither as a religious nor as an anti-religious organisation, and certainly not because it was held to "do public good by debunking superstition", but because of its ethical and educational principles and activities; the British Humanist Association was granted charity status in 1983 for similar reasons. NICOLAS WALTER London NI

Fundholding is no panacea

Sir: Dr Morris, chairman of the National Association of Fundholding Practices, asserts that abolishing fundholding will detrimentally affect patients (Letters 13July). As non-fundholding GPs we disagree.

Non-fundholders are still actively involved in commissioning healthcare, and local GP commissioning groups are an effective and economical way of influencing commissioning on behalf of local populations. The needs of our practice population are very similar to those of the practice up the road. Why should Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number.

management expenses be multiplied? Funding is better used for GP representatives to be involved with commissioning, while retaining strategic input from the

health authority.

It is surprising that only 51 per cent of GPs are fundholders, given that participating GPs were offered substantial amounts of money. This was the only way some practices could afford to improve their administrative staffing and quality of computerisation, since the primary care sector of the health service has been chronically underfunded. Dr M AQUILINA Dr P MARTIN London SE14

Sir. It was good to see Margaret St John's piece (8 July) on private health insurance - it is a necessary debate and one to which we must all contribute if people are to make informed choices about their health care. However, it wasn't fair to single our Prime Health for not covering regular renal dialysis. Of the 400 or so different private medical insurance policies currently available from the 25 companies in the field, only one covers this treatment. To include it - a regular treatment which usually continues for many years - would mean raising policy prices well out of reach of those people who choose to take out individual policies when they are not covered by company schemes. RICHARD ROCHE Marketing Director Prime Health Ltd Guildford

The weakness of think-tanks

Sir: If think-tanks on the right are declining and those on the left appear to have little influence on Tony Blair ("British politics requires more thought", 9 July) perhaps it is because the strength of think-tanks is ultimately also their weakness - they push a certain "line" continuously and audiences get tired of listening.

I would certainly concur with your editorial that Britain, and indeed Europe, needs more coherent thinkers. Think-tanks, however, have an inherent weakness because of their institutional structure. Their researchers are based in-house, and therefore their research and output is necessarily constrained by the interests and abilities of a permanent research staff.

Networks may offer a better model for stimulating wellinformed policy debate. They have a central administration (which takes no institutional policy positions) and a group of researchers (based at a variety of institutions), who are affiliated to the network, allowing the promotion of a diversity of policy positions. As long as researchers are not under one roof, it is not so difficult for a network to include many individuals with widely differing views and policy orientations.

The network allows researchers to pursue their own research agenda, rather than the agenda of an institution which is committed

to a particular "line" and so promotes greater discussion and diversity among academics and policy-makers. For example, the Centre for Economic Policy Research acts like an "invisible college" or "multiversity" that coordinates the activities of an international network of more than 300 research fellows, whose publications carry a wide range of policy conclusions and recommendations, which are not necessarily the views of those funding the research. With growing interdependence, economic policy issues, in particular, cannot be analysed sensibly at the national level. The CEPR model stimulates better-informed discussion at much lower cost. JOAN CONCANNON External Relations Manager The Centre for Economic Policy Research

No-go legend

London WI

Sir. The claim ("Orange gets the red light in Ulster", 13 July) that the Vauxhall Nova did not sell in Spain because no va means "won't go" is a well-known and unsubstantiated urban legend. Actually, no va is in present tense and it means "it does not go"; but nova is pronounced differently from no va and means the same as in English, namely an exploding star. For more information on this topic and for a letter from General Motors confirming greater than expected sales of the Chevrolet Nova in Venezuela, see http://www. urbanlegends.com products chevy. nova on the World Wide Web. Dr GABOR MEGYESI Trinity College, Cambridge

Battle for the pavements

Sir. The nuisance and danger of cyclists on pavements to which Colin Wheeler draws attention (letter, 12 July) is part of a larger problem: that of a withdrawal by most official agencies from all concern for management of nonmotor highway use. Most police forces have abandoned any attempt to enforce cycling laws.

It is possible to ride without lights, ignore traffic lights, give no hand signals etc, with complete impunity. The programme of instruction of children, and testing, in cycling proficiency, through local authorities and the schools, seems to have been abandoned. As a result children and young people generally ride in traffic in much the same way as the sparrows fly: one moment on the road, the next on the pavement or across the road, up the kerb, off the kerb, this side, that side. It must o saw anyone under 30 give a proper hand signal. CHRISTOPHER PADLEY Market Rasen, Lincolnshire

Sir: Why single out cyclists for using pavements? Nowadays, in almost every street, you will see cars and vans driving on to the pavements to park. Pedestrians, including children, are often forced into the road. Particular difficulty is caused to blind and elderly people, and to those with prams and wheelchairs.

It is highly likely that pavements will increasingly become parking lots, as the Government still assumes that vehicle numbers will double in the next twenty years or so. This is despite the fact that the act of driving on to and off the footway is an offence liable to a fine of £1000. MALCOLM MORT Liskeard, Comwall

Sir: Colin Wheeler might try writing to the chief constable of his county, for riding on a footpath without right is a criminal offence (Highways Act 1835, section 72) and so is riding without reasonable consideration for other road users (Road traffic Act 1988, section 29). More serious is dangerous cycling (section 28), which may carry a penalty of £2,500. This law is stated at the back of the Highway Code. A few convictions might draw cyclists' attention to it.
JOHN WYMER Bridport, Dorset

Sir. Could Sir George Young be persuaded to cycle along a Red Route ("Cycling on the road to a comeback", 11 July) along with as many Red Route designers as are prepared to risk their lives with him? They will then experience just how dangerous these recent introductions are to cyclists, forcing them into contention for space with traffic, often fast-moving. approaching from the rear.
TFFTAYLOR London No

The sixth power

Sir. I believe you to be mistaken when you state (report, 12 July) that Rothschild's was popularly regarded as the sixth great power. The Duc de Richelieu in 1818 said: There are six great powers in Europe: England, France, Prussia, Austria, Russia and Baring Brothers." How are the mighty failen. JOHN GARDNER Epsent. Surrey

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deep-fried for all eternity. The picture of a hell somewhere underground where people are tormented forever really nowadays appeals only to American fundamentalists, amongst whom it is a popular legend that a Russian drilling project broke through into hell somewhere near the Finnish border - but of course it was all hushed up by the Communists. The idea is almost as unlikely as God sitting on a throne in the skies with a long white beard. Yet the Church of England

does believe that God exists and that hell - or ultimate sepelieve that these truths are concealed from the modern world because they come dressed in incredible pictures, like that of the lake of brimstone, or the old man in the clouds. So they write reports. which the Synod endorses, saying neither of these things need be taken literally.

Unfortunately, they lack any very convincing cartoon pictures to put in their place. If

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out, then what is it about? And here the church has real trouble answering. Rwanda. Srebrenica or Auschwitz are nice pat answers, but for most of us experienced as something on television: and hell, whatever else it is, is worse than watching any possible television.

For this man

hell is having to

say what he believes in

By Andrew Brown

Hell is by definition worse than anything we can imagine. Only an artist of extraordinary genius can begin to suggest it and there don't seem to be any of those writing reports for the Church of England these days. Fifty years ago. CS Lewis had a bash, with The Screwtape Leuers. These are still extraordinarily vivid. But the doctrine commission could hardly republish them as a full systematic theology of hell.

This brings out a wider difficulty that the Church of England has when expressing its beliefs: because it is not a church with a single, defined catechism, like the Roman Catholics, and an officially promoted style of theology, it is more dependent on art than on logic. What it teaches has always been more powerfully expressed imaginatively than as a set of bald doctrinal propositions. At its best. Anglicanism could combine both forms, as aration from God - exists too. in the Book of Common Prayer, Some of its eleverer members which is both great art and

great th Unfortunately, for most people today it is also great nonsense. The churches that are growing, even those most rigorous in their theology, have almost abandoned the use of the book; and many of its most valuable not because it is true. but because it is beautiful.

The classic defence of traditional liturgy and language Hell is not about demons pitch- elides the difference between forking back into the bitumen art and theology: "If the King

James version was good enough for St Paul, then it is good enough for me," said one legendary churchgoer, protesting against modern translations. But this sort of confidence depends on ignorance. It cannot survive the discovery that St Paul spoke no language that we

understand. The doctrine of God has run into similar difficulties. It is all very well to believe in Him but to explain what this means or how it feels is far more difficult. Believers express their feelings not in the production or consumption of theological reports but in prayer, which does not sit easily in the public

Once the pictures and art which had expressed this belief in former ages lost their force, for one reason or another, the belief itself did not lose coherence, but became much harder

mathematical physicist turned priest and theologian like Sir John Polkinghorne believes that God created heaven and earth just as firmly as Michaelangelo did, perhaps more so. But Michaelangelo's scientifically impossible frescos on the Sistine Chapel will have convinced far more people than Dr Polkinghorne's fully argued books on God and science.

Then there is sex. All religions have traditionally been concerned with sex,not least because religious belief is in general something acquired within families. Religions that vociferous defenders think it do not strengthen the social structures which transmit their doctrines will tend to die out irrespective of their truth.

Many of the fastest-declining religions in England today, such as the Methodists and the

Roman Catholics, are clearly suffering from the erosion of their traditional sociological base as much as from any difficulties with their doctrines of sex. But the Church of Eng-land's difficulties with sex are exceptionally public and prolonged.

A report last year seemed to come to terms with cohabitation as a substitute for marriage - and was furiously attacked by one member of the committee responsible for producing it, Dr Alan Storkey.

Over the weekend, Dr Storkey's wife Elaine, giggling artlessly, said on television what most evangelicals think too obvious to be worth saying: that the divorce of the Prince of Wales is an embarrassment to the church; and that this embarrassment will be redoubled if he ever remarries. The point is that Mrs Storkey's instincts are very much those of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey; and it is generally assumed that what she says, he thinks but would never dare

As a church whose ministers are legally obliged to marry almost everyone who presents themselves demanding this service, the Church of England is caught in an appalling dilemma here. If it turns away the ungodly, it loses a chance to tification for being regarded as the church of the nation. If it accepts them, it accepts also that it will dwindle away to a sort of English Spiritual Heritage, especially in the coun-

These problems are hard enough to deal with, but at least they are heterosexual. On the issue of homosexuality things are even worse. In many parts of the church, homosexuals of any sort are invisible. In some places they are almost the norm and have been accepted for decades. What is almost impossible for the church to do is to have a policy which will work in both sorts of parishes.

None of these problems are new. Disputes about the nature of God, hell, and the afterlife were far more pressing and bitter in the years around the First World War. But they were private then. They were fought out among bishops and theologians, and if a result was ever reached, it was done so by undemocratic means.

The General Synod has changed all that and turned the formation of doctrine in the

Church of England into a spectator sport. Twice a year, sometimes three times a year, there are votes on sensitive and interesting subjects. Each vote will generate a story about what The Church of England" thinks. Each story in turn will

generate any number of articles about what the Church of Eng-

land ought to believe. here are other biases built into the system that make its proceedings shocking to the general, non-church-going classes. Because it is elected by an arcane and indirect process, the Synod's members represent the section of the church

which is fondest of committees

and - it often seems - least in

contact with the outside world. Synod members, by and large, read broadsheet papers and have no idea of the impression that their deliberations make

on people who do not. Because the Synod is a democratic body, riven by deeply held dissension, it develops sexual policies erratically, so the church's official position moves, like a firecracker, in a series of random leaps punctuated by loud explosions. All the large churches are split on all the issues that divide the Church of England. But the others do not make a public

spectacle of the fact. For all its frustrations and inefficiencies, there is something noble and endearing about this enterprise. "We shall

talk about the truth and the truth shall set you free" is not quite as snappy a motto as it might be, but it is not bad. However, its time is limited. The Synod's position is the result of an historical oddity. It exists, and gains its national position, from the fact that it does the work of the establishment that Parliament cannot be bothered with. If the establishment goes, the Synod will be

changed beyond recognition.

And there are processes has-

tening this end. The Archbishop of Canterbury. Dr George Carey, is determined to give the church a central government, which could provide the kind of single-minded long-term leadership that the Synod conspicu-

ously can't. He is not a man to be gladdened by the endless attacks on the Church of England for waffling and temporising, perhaps because he sympathises with some of them.

His proposed solution is a drastic one: to set up a single central committee which will control the income of the church commissioners as well as the agenda of the Synod. This has run foul of Parliament, which considers that the church commissioners are a parliamentary charity. The struggle over that may well lead to full disestablishment - and though the Church of England may then find it has a clear and biblical line on all the important questions, it may also discover that no one cares.

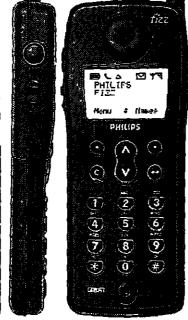


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Tour de France proves a real tour de force

have a grown-up daughter living in London - in fact. she is so grown-up that she has recently become pregnant and is going to have a baby by the end of the year. My sonin-law tells me that the pregnancy fad that has hit her is not the sudden fondness for eating liquorice or nibbling bits of anthracite that is said to hit mothers to be, but an enormous craze for watching the Tour de France reports on

Channel 4. This I find startling. Most women are too sensible to watch sport, anyway, but my daughter is the one woman in the world in whose education I had a close part, and I was always very careful to send her to schools where they didn't play rugby or have more sports trophies than poetry prizes. If, at home, an important match came on TV which I felt I had to watch, I would be careful to usher her out of the room first and send her off for a long walk. It didn't matter if I watched it because I was beyond curing, but I wanted to save her. It isn't just sports watching that is bad for you, it is

passive sports watching as well. And now she is addicted to daily Channel 4 Tour de France reports!

Well, if she has to be tem-

porarily addicted to any sport,

I would prefer it to be a sport on Channel 4. All the sports ever broadcast on Channel 4 are spectacular, not just in their skill and endurance but in their incomprehensibility and poetic impenetrability. was once taken to an Urdu poetry recital in Hyderahad, in India, and the baffled enjoyment I got from that evening is very like the baffled enjoyment I get from Channel 4 sport. Sometimes it features one of those games which have survived in Ireland, in which people cannot make up their mind whether to hit the ball with a stick or run with it, so they kick it instead - the eame is called shinty, and if it is not called that it is called hurling, or maybe Gaelic football, and I could watch it for hours. There always comes a point near the end when a breathless commentator says: "Well, Limerick have got an

awful lot to do if they are to

Miles Kington

catch Sligo now,"and I realise. with a thrill of excitement, that I have no idea which team is Limerick or which is Sligo, thus adding a new element of thrilling obscurity to the game.

Sometimes it is an Indian game, called something like kabbadi, in which people have to touch each other. Sometimes it is a game called Australian Rules football, in which the players have to be suntanned and wear only their underwear. But as long as it is a game in which you are left to your own devices to work out what is going on, it is fun. (American football is different from all other Channel 4 games, though. Not only is it an extremely tiresome game, being a cross between chess and trench warfare, with the best bits of both excluded, but the commentators are determined to stuff you with the most tiresome statistics known to man. You would have to be pregnant with triplets to work up a sudden taste for American football.) So I can understand my

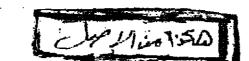
daughter's infatuation with the Tour de France. In fact, as it is a good Channel 4 sport, I have had it myself. I have found myself transfixed as the kilometre signs flash by, as the thin muscular bottoms of the riders bob up and down through cheering little French villages, as the camera viewpoint shifts giddily from just behind the leader's left ear to a high helicopter shot of the entire Tour streaming along a main road like ants heading towards a picnic. I have found myself wondering where the camera is, realising it is on a motorhike just in front of the breakaway squad, seeing with great excitement, the shadow of the

cameraman leaning right off his vehicle. What I have never done is

have the faintest idea what is going on who is really winning, or what a squad does when it sets out to support its star rider. I don't think I have ever wanted to know. Because it is only when you do know what is going on in a sport that you realise how dreary most of it is. I understand what is going on in football and I think a lot of Euro 96 was pretty dreary. And I know what is going on in rugby, or at least enough to know I never ever want to see England play rugby again: I never want to see the England scrum kill the game again. I never want to see a load of supposedly fast and intelligent three-quarters kick for touch or forget to pass the ball when tackled again.

In brief, I think the news that England has been excluded from the Five Nations competition is the best news since well ... since l heard that my daughter was

Tomorrow: we tell you which drugs you need to get you through watching the Olympic



the commentators

The artist formerly known as British

Paris has taken Francis Bacon as one of its own, a European painter with a vision of the uncertainties and fragmentation of the twentieth century, says Andrew Graham-Dixon

he Francis Bacon retrospective, which opened a fortnight ago at the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, has been attracting approximately 5,000 visitors each day. That is a remarkable figure. Picasso and Matisse apart, it is hard to think of another 20th-century artist capable of drawing such crowds. It is impossible to think of another British 20th-century and st capable of doing so.

As far as the French are

concerned, we are to understand that Bacon is not British at all, but European. According to Jean-Jacques Aillagon, the president of the Pompidou Centre, he is one of the quintessentially European artists of modern times. Indeed, Aillagon adds, the exhibition may be counted upon to reveal the "profonde Europeanité" - the profound Europeanness - of his painting. It is very unusual for the French to consider a British artist as one of them, as part of the mainstream, in quite The desire to recruit Bacon

as a "European" is not entirely perverse because, at the level of its technique, Bacon's art does speak long and lovingly about the art of the Italian, Spanish and Dutch masters he admired (above all Titian, Velázquez and Rembrandt). Yet the Pompidou exhibition and its popularity surely says as much about the the times in which we live as it does about Bacon's art.

The readiness or the desire to see this difficult, refractory boundlessly vital individual as an emblematic trans-national European figure may be symptomatic of something else; part of a broader quest for some binding sense of European identify, perhaps. But there is a paradox here, because Bacon's grand subject is the identity itself. Bacon's art the artist made his London teaches us to admit that we do not know quite who we are, nor quite what is going on, nor why. Could it be that modern Europe is prepared to embrace him because it sees in his work a reflection of its own uncertainties and fragmentation?

The images confronting those 5,000 daily visitors to the Pompidou Centre are neither pleasant nor comforting. In Bacon's art the Pope screams, the newsreader, in his glass box, laughs the laugh of a maniac; while the politician grins, melts and collapses into an incoherent puddle of matter. The dissolved, blurred and otherwise deformed people we see in Bacon's paintings have lost their coherence and have metamorphosed into projectiles of flesh and energy, going God knows where. They embrace each other. They eat each other. Often, we see them in the

process of turning into animals. Bacon's is an art of breakdown, meltdown and entropy a fact he makes plain by taking the classic forms of Western



Above, a portrait of Bacon taken in his studio in 1971; below, his 1944 triptych, 'Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion' (courtesy of the Tate Gallery), the first picture Bacon exhibited in London Photograph: Francis Goodm Photograph: Francis Goodman

European religious art (the triptych, the icon) and twisting them to his own ends. One of the first pictures to be seen in exhibiting debut, in 1944: Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucificion. The writer John Russell, who went to see the painting in an exhibition at the Lefevre Gallery just a month before the end of the Second World War, has left a fine description of the appalling impact it made on the fragile optimism of its first audience.

"Immediately to the right of

the door were images so unrelievedly awful that the mind shut snap at the sight of them. Their anatomy was half-human, fined in a low-ceilinged, windowless and oddly proportioned space. They could bite, probe and suck, and they had very long, eel-like necks ... Common to all three figures was a mindless voracity, an automatic unregulated gluttony, a ravening undifferentiated capacity for hatred. They caused a total consternation. We had no name for them, and no name for what we felt about them.'

Yet the mood at the Pompidon Centre is one of reverence. The paintings are hung within spaces and arranged in configsacredness of the chapel. There is even, perhaps, a sense in which Bacon has now come to seem all too easily accessible an artist. These days Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucificion does not seem to prompt shock but (and this may itself be shocking in another way) an almost straightforward sense of recognition. On the day when I visited the exhibition. I saw a

young counte approach Bacon's howling, sneering, squatting maenads, consider them for a moment or two in silence, nod choreography of their bodies seemed to say, yes, this is what the world is like. Ghouls like these ones hirk everywhere - in corners of the mind best left unvisited, in the shadowlands of society, in war zones.

Bacon originally seemed a disturbing artist because he insisted on emphasising those aspects of humanity - transgressive, violent, bestial - that most of his audience had spent

impressive with each passing year, Bacon gave expression to his undoubted morbidity and pessimism with a pictorial inventiveness - an originality in itself - unmatched in the art of any of his contemporaries. ity, and a perverse beauty, that sets itself against the apparent horror of his imagery. He once said, à propos of the screaming

face that so fascinated him as a motif that he wanted to paint the glitter and the life of the human mouth as if he were Monet painting a sunset.

To see Francis Bacon as a great describer of what it means, now, to be a European, may be in one sense to pay him his due. But it is also to risk ironing out the unevenness in his work, and seeing almost everything he touched as a masterpiece - which is almost the same as forgetting what made him great, when he was great, in the first place. The moment when we begin to find Significance in an artist's work may, also, be the moment when we begin to lose sight of the work itself.

Francis Bacon continues at the Pompidou Centre, Paris, until 14 October:

Fat cats and sleaze are on the decline, says William Hartston

What you can find if you read between the lines

he world is becoming a better-educated and more moral place, with better spelling and no longer threatened by a tide of sleaze. all possibly under the influence of a new power axis spreading across the whole of north London. Those are the main conclusions revealed by an analysis of newspaper contents over the first six months of 1996 com-

their lives attempting to suppress or ignore. Once, his work

scandalised those who saw it.

Now, many seem to find in it

cause for consent, even con-

sensus. One generation's reve-lation has become another gen-

Perhaps it is in this sense

then, that Bacon has become a

"European" artist. In his visions

of the ego perpetually suc-cumbing to the id, of the humane succumbing to the bes-tial, of the coherent being swal-

lowed up by the incoherent, we

now simply see a convincing

account of the way things are

especially in central and East-

ern Europe. Yet, while the trou-

bled modern European sensi-

deformations, apparent vio-lence and the heightened sense

of mortality expressed by Bacon's work, this does not

necessarily make it any easier

for us to see his strengths and

weaknesses as an artist. Bacon himself, it ought to be remem-

bered, passionately disliked

overt symbolic interpretation of

his work. Indeed, few things horrified him more than the

notion that his pictures might

be taken for allegories of the

political, moral or other ills of

the 20th century.

The danger is that our own

historical circumstances, and

our own sense of history, may

persuade us to see Bacon's work as merely a form of higher

illustration; a series of cartoon

diagrams depicting such abstractions as the Human Condition or Late Twentieth

Century Anxiety. Yet at his

very best, and particularly in his earlier work, which looks more

His paint had a visceral qual-

eration's given.

pared with last year.
The tables below give the number of instances of the highlighted words in a repre-sentative cross-section of British national daily and Sunday newspapers. The figure in each case is the number of articles in which the relevant word appeared. The first table shows clearly the geopolitical changes of the past year:

bility finds it tempting to see itself and its own predicaments so uncannily reflected in the 2230 Rosnia

+726

The severe drops in Bosnia, Chechnya and Rwanda, show that the world's bot-spots have cooled off significantly. Hong Kong, as handover day approaches, has risen according to expectations, but the most dramatic increases are seen in the last two entries on the list. And their phenomenal rises appear to be by no means coincidental. Indeed, if we look for the number of newspaper articles containing both words "Southgate" and "Wembley", we see that the figure has risen from 72 (first six months of 1995) to 489 (first six months of 1996), an astonishing 579 per cent increase. We can only infer the existence of an axis stretching across the whole of north London that has a wholly dis-

312 +105.3

proportionate influence on the

The increasing interest in Hong Kong is also seen in our second table, which records the trends among certain prominent people. Chris Patten has more than doubled his representation. Since Hong Kong itself was only up by 33.7 per cent, he is clearly a man to watch - though not as much as Peter Mandelson. John Redwood is only a little down on last year, when his figure was considerably boosted by the Conservative leadership election, and has now overtaken Michael Portillo who has been rather quiet of late.

| reec | | |
|---------------|--------------------|---|
| Jana-Jane '95 | Jan-June '96 | % Charge |
| 160 | 156 | -25 |
| 1323 | 438 | -56.9 |
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| | 160 1323 668 | lan-lane 95 Jan-lune 96 160 156 1323 438 668 570 89 119 |

With the increased visibility of Mr Mandelson, and his role in reinventing Socialism and the Labour Party, we were surprised to see that fewer things had, in fact, been reinvented this year than last. Wheel reinventors, however, have had a

pared with only nine in the first half of 1995. The tide of sleaze has also passed by, with the number of fat cats also dropping significantly. The increase in hyphen-ated fat-cats, however, may be taken as a sign that have become accepted as part of the establishment.

good year so far, with the wheel being reinvented 21 times com-

Most encouraging of all are the figures for misspelt millennia. As 2000 approaches, it is no surprise that the number of mentions of the millennium has almost doubled, but it is heartening to see that the number of misspellings has actually gone down. The percentage error rate has thus dropped from 12.1 to 6.5. The Independent has, as usual, been leading the way, with a slash in its misspelling quotient from 11.7 to 4.5 per cent. The figure would be even better if we excluded articles about bad spelling. Southgate and Wembley

apart, however, how are our other national obsessions faring this year? Table three tells the

2746

3940

+43.5

The media's love affair with the Lottery has clearly survived the honeymoon period of early 1995, thanks perhaps to doublerollovers. But divorce is coming up close behind it and will. if these trends are maintained. overtake the lottery as our primary obsession in the second half of 1998.

New Liberal Democrats, new radicals

Paddy Ashdown is on a mission to differentiate his party from Labour in the minds of voters

Lful to "go back to your constimencies and prepare for govern-ment". It is said that after he stepped down, Sir David, with a rueful sense of self-parody, used to end speeches to party gatherings by exhorting them to "go back and prepare for local government". Whether that is apocryphal or not, it looked in the summer of 1994 as if Paddy Ashdown, coping first with disappointing European election results and then Tony Blair's accession to the Labour leadership, was facing extinction as a national force.

But the extinction did not happen. The watershed was not the party's triumph, impressive as it was, in consolidating its position as the second party in local government. The decisive moment was the Littleborough and Saddieworth by-election last year when, after having had everything thrown at them that new Labour could muster, the Liberal Democrats survived and won. In so doing, it proved to itself that it could hold territory even in a political landscape transformed by Tony Blair.

What's more, the Liberal Democrats now have a mission. And it is one that underlines a paradox of anti-Toryism, stemming as it does from the extreme care with which Blair is approaching the coming election.

Tt is 15 long years since Sir David

Once upon a time, it looked as if the
Steel told the Liberal Party faithLiberal Democrats' historic role would be to act as a comfortably centrist brake on a Labour government, pre-venting it from sinking back in the corporatist neo-Keynsian morass of the 1970s. Now this all seems rather different. Suddenly the party looks more like a radical goad to the studied, electoralist caution of new Labour. Ashdown believes that the minimalism of Labour's manifesto has given him space to move into.

Take this week's flurry of policy and thought for example. Yesterday the party produced bold but fiscally neutral plans for new, environmentally friendly carbon taxes. Tomorow might Paddy Ashdown will make a speech in which he questions defeatism over unemployment. He will draw a distinction between the competitive value" economy in which industry needs brutally to cut its labour costs, and the "community value" economy in which social and consumer needs would be fulfilled by an increase. rather than a decrease, in jobs. Citing the apparently trivial but symbolic example of his own local rail station, which the elderly won't use at night because it is unmanned, Mr Ashdown will suggest that in the long run consumers may be prepared to pay more

for better, sometimes labour intensive.



DONALD MACINTYRE

Ashdown recoils from the notion that he is to the left of Blair

The speech will add, and deliberately so, to the perception that the Liberal Democrats are prepared to be more challenging than Labour on at least some issues. It comes, after all, on top of clear commitments to an additional £2bn on education, financed if necessary by 1p on income tax; a new 50 per cent tax rate; and the probability of a clear pledge for a decisive referendum on Britain's future in

tics, developed over several months but refined at a meeting of the party's MPs at meeting in Oxford over the week- The Scottish Liberal Democrat MPs end. First, it reflects a recognition by are asking. What price co-operation government.

Ashdown that the party needs to be known for more than its commitment to constitutional reform. He knows that all the polling evidence is that the voters already understand that the party wants proportional representation for the House of Commons. He knows, too, that the fact that electors favour PR when asked doesn't mean that it is top of their individual priorities. Indeed instead of referring to "constitutional reform", the party now talks internally of "sleaze" to remind itself that dismantling the quango state which the Tories are running now, and Labour might do in the future, is a more immediately populist cause.

Second, having taken the momentous decision to rule out a coalition with the Tories, Ashdown believes he has to differentiate the Liberal Democrat product from Labour. That is helped, as it happens, by the crossness that even those of his MPs who are friendliest to Labour feel about not being consulted about Labour's commitment to a referendum on Scottish devolution. Ashdown wanted a referendum, too. But it was galling not to be told in advance, given that plans for devo-Partly of course this a matter of tac- lution were hammered out in that model of inter-party co-operation, the Scottish constitutional convention.

now?" In September they will take their revenge when the party conference proposes that the referendum question should be (instead of the two-parter planned by Labour) a single one: "Do you want a tax-raising Scottish parliament?"

But it isn't just a matter of pre-election tactics. Mr Ashdown recoils, as Dracula from the cross, from the notion, mischievously encouraged by the likes of Ken Livingstone, that he is to the left of Blair. So let's stick with his preferred word: radical. But his insistence on a broad, but clear and costed programme poses an interesting question for Labour: does it have a hidden agenda or is it less ambitious for change than the Liberal Democrats? Is it a Trojan horse or an empty

The accusation against the Liberal Democrats, of course, will be that in the heat of any post election negotiations, they will simply throw over all these non-constitutional demands if Cabinet posts beckon. But the party has hardened since the Lib-Lab pact in the late Seventies damaged its support in the country without exacting any price to speak of. Ashdown thinks his programme will win him votes. And if he is right, he could yet have the mandate to press some or all of these policies on an incoming Blair-led

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CITY & BUSINESS EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

BUSINESS NEWS DESM: tel 0171-293 2636 fax 0171-293 2098 Red faces as Sids lose out in British Energy float flop

MICHAEL HARRISON

The flotation of British Energy yesterday turned into an unprecedented privatisation flop for the Government as shares in the nuclear power generator crashed by more than 10 per cent on the first day of dealing, leaving hundreds of thousands of

small investors nursing losses. The scale of the meltdown left ministers and their financial barrassing position and pro-

By the time the market closed the partly-paid shares had fallen from an offer price of 105p to 94p, having touched 92p at one stage, amid heavy trading with 80 million shares - 11.5 per cent of the total shares offered changing hands.

A small investor who received the maximum allocation of 600 shares in the public offer was last night looking at a loss of £30 on an investment

voked fresh questions about of £600. Private shareholders british Energy's prospects. of £600. Private shareholders who took part in the retail tender and institutional investors

were facing far heavier losses. But it was British Energy's directors who were staring as the biggest individual losses. Chief executive Dr Robert Hawley bought 33,000 shares which were last night showing a loss of £3,630 while chairman John Robb was nursing a £2,200 loss and finance director Michael Kirwan a loss of £1,650 on

As the scale of the sell-off became clear, a series of explanations was hastily assembled by advisers, ranging from the fall on Wall Street to adverse press reports and comments from former British Gas chairman Sir

Dennis Rooke that sharehold-

ers had been conned when the

business was floated in 1986. Advisers also pointed to evidence of short-selling by market-makers - offering to sell shares they did not own in the expectation of being able to buy

them at a cheaper price by the ergy spokesman, said that the time they had to deliver the sale of British Energy looked intime they had to deliver the

Attending the start of dealings at BZW's dealing room in the City, the President of the Board of Trade, lan Lang, expressed satisfaction, saying the taxpayer had done "very well" out of the flotation. "I am very pleased with what we have achieved. This is a privatisation that six years ago we were told could not happen."
But John Battle, Labour's en-

creasingly like "a bad deal for shareholders as well as short-changing the taxpayer".

He also demanded to know whether there had been a cover-up by ministers to keep secret the closure of two of the company's stations until after the public share offer had

The collapse in the shares yesterday was all the more surprising since the issue had been

Government's range. At the fully-paid price of 203p the flotation will raise just £1.4bn -£500m less than the Govern-

ment had initially expected. Patrick Green, Friends of the Earth's senior energy campaigner, said: The temptation to say we told you so is overwhelming. As British Energy's new owners contemplate their loss they should give some thought to why they ever fell for the nuclear con. Nuclear power

priced at the bottom end of the never was and never will be a

In the past, shares in privatised companies have performed badly shortly after dealings began only in exceptional market conditions or where the sale was a secondary offering. The BP share offer in 1987 was a victim of the worldwide crash. Secondary offerings of shares in BT and the two generators, National Power and PowerGen, also fared poorly. Comment, page 17

Insurance bail-out: Hard core of rebels vows to fight on in court despite overwhelming vote of approval for first stage of plan

Lloyd's gets green light for £3.2bn rescue plan

PETER RODGERS Financial Editor

Lloyd's yesterday won an overwhelming vote of approval for now worth £3.2bn, £100m more than the last official figure.

But a hard core of the 3,000 names present said they would become "refuseniks" and fight on in the courts.

David Rowland, chairman of Lloyd's, began the annual meeting at the Royal Festival Hall in London secure in the knowledge that proxy votes had already put him well on the way

stage in a series culminating in a poll of all members that closes on 28 August. But without the approval of members for a £440m special contribution to the rescue fund, the plan would have fallen apart.

Rebel names claimed they had enough continuing support to finance new legal actions for fraud against the market. though Lloyd's officials were dismissive of the numbers claimed to be ready to follow

The exact total will not be known until the August deadline for members to accept or refuse their individual offers. though the votes vesterday were regarded as indicating almost certain success for the rescue

Alan Porter, a Lloyd's mem-

ber, claimed there would be between 4,000 and 5,000 Trefuseniks". "The case for fraud in the form of bad faith and reckless misrepresentation has gaththe first stage of its rescue plan, ered sufficient strength to be endorsed for the first time by leading counsel in the last few days." Lloyd's should be pursued until the full truth came out, he

Mr Porter, chairman of the property company London and industrial, was the principal speaker on behalf of four motions from rebel names which attempted to force Lloyd's to improve its offer by as much as £1bn. The rebel names had The votes were only the first - requisitioned an extraordinary meeting to follow the annual

Ron Sandler, chief executive of Lloyd's, said "any attempt to implement these proposals must lead quickly to the collapse of Lloyd's and I can't help but feel that some of the sponsors of these resolutions understand that only too well".

Even before the votes on the rebel motions were taken, Mr Rowland revealed that 83 per cent of the proxies he had received were against.

After the votes on the rebel motions. Lloyd's broke up into three separate meetings to approve the crucial £440m payment towards the rescue.

It emerged that by the start of these later meetings between 94 and 98 per cent of the proxy votes submitted were in favour.



Hand-off: 'Refuseniks' outside the Lloyd's annual meeting yesterday had mixed success in attracting support for their cause Photograph: Geraint Lewis

Rowland ruffled by two-pronged assault

Only two questioners from the floor ruffled David Rowland of Lloyd's, in his polished and successful handling of one of the most crucial meetings he has ever chaired, writes Peter

One was when a rebei Lloyds's name. Philip Colfox, made allegations about Mr Rowland's period as a director of an underwriting firm in 1981. To supportive applause from elsewhere on the floor, Mr Rowland said he was extreme-

ly tired of Mr Colfox's allegations for which there was not the slightest scrap of evidence.
And Sir Alan Hardcastle, Lloyd's top regulator, said he would be a knighthood or a names' money, Mr Rowland had looked into documents peerage. Mr Salbstein's litany said: "We can't put heads on sent by Mr Colfox and so had Lloyd's lawyers, and there was "no basis whatsoever on which it would be right to take investigations any further at all".

in sharp contrast, the other incident that slightly ruffled the urbane Mr Rowland was when a Mr Salbstein praised him to the skies, saying "one man above all deserves our thanks - David Rowland ... you deserve national honour and

recognition and trust". This honour would soon be forthcoming, he added, though he did not forecast whether it was hard to stop until Mr Rowland joked that his own wife. who was in the audience, would

give him hell after hearing it. The meeting at the concert three years ago at a time when losses were still mounting and Lloyd's was offering only £900m compensation.

When Adam Fergusson, demanded that David Rowland, the chairman, publish the list of managing agents and others responsible for losing the pikes in quite the way I understand you would like." David Durant, who said he

spoke for 800 ruined names with so little left that they could hall was tightly organised, with not pay membership subshigh security. But there was little criptions to his group, pressed for of the emotional drama seen more help. "The need is more help. "The need is desperate - this must be pushed with all speed - we all have milk bills to pay.

He asked Mr Rowland to include widows of members in a new pension scheme for the hardest hit, and Mr Rowland said imediately: "The answer is yes." The very first questioner

from the floor raised, without naming them, the intractable issue of the Vine brothers, identical twins with identical exposures to Lloyd's. It has already emerged that the twin who has paid his debts will to contribute twice as much to the rescue as his broth-

er, who refused. Acknowledging the problem thrown up by the way the rescue has been structured. Mr Rowland said: "We can't square the circle but what we have sought to do as we have gained more resources has been to make it as palatable as we

media

BBC sale attracts interest

The sale of the BBC's transmission business, scheduled to take place later this year, is attracting a high level of in-terest, sources close to the situation said yesterday.

Potential bidders include

several domestic and international telecommunications companies, at least two cable companies, and NTL, the rival ITV transmission service.

A memorandum on the sale is to be sent to interested parties shortly. This is expected to detail the terms of the BBC's long-term contract with the new company. It is being set in a way that maximises the proceeds of the sale while providing the Corporation with flexibility to use alternative transmission services at some stage in the future.

The Government has already pledged that privatisation will not mean the BBC paying any more for its transmission than it does at the moment.

No decision has yet been taken by the BBC on whether it will be using the existing transmission infrastructure, which is analogue-based, in its plans for digital television. Were it to do so, the newly privatised com-pany would have to invest

heavily in new technology. The recent sale of NTL for £235m to International CableTel provides a benchmark for valuing the BBC's tra'smission services. The four transmission sites in the UK devoted to the World Service are being parcelled into a separate husiness, although Didders for the domestic service can also bid for the international side.

NTL would have the opportunity to make big efficiency savings were it the successful bidder, since it shares many of the sites occupied by the BBC's service. However, the resulting reduction in competition may prove unacceptable to the Government,

Rivals say open skies is no answer to BA tie-up

CHRIS GODSMARK

An open-skies agreement to liberalise access to Heathrow Airport would do nothing to curb the monopolistic implications of British Airways proposed alliance with American Airlines, rival airline operators told MPs yesterday.

In an unprecedented lobbying effort, Delta, United and Continental Airlines told the Commons Transport Select Committee that the damage to competition would far outweigh any gains from the chance to bid for slots to Heathrow. The bearing follows Richard Branson's outspoken attack on the deal and increases the pressure on UK and US authorities. The Office of Fair Trading is

also investigating.
"We would sacrifice the opportunity to compete for Heathrow in order to stop this president of marketing, said. The BA-American tie-up involves merging ticket sales, revenues and marketing operations.

Its critics say it would increase BA's share of the Heathrow-US market from 42.5 to 60 per cent. On routes from Heathrow to Miami and Boston, their combined market share would increase to 100 per cent.

The alliance requires antitrust immunity in the US. In previous cases, US government approval has depended on an open-skies agreement allowing airlines to trade slots. Rivals insisted yesterday that

this would not prevent BA-American from using predatory pricing on the most lucrative able ground facilities at Heathrow to squeeze competition. United Airlines has a similar

deal going through," Robert tie with Lufthansa which recently Coggin, Delta's executive vice-received US anti-trust immunity received US anti-trust immunity after the conclusion of an open-

skies deal with Germany.

A spokesman for BA said after the hearings. "The criticism is a bit rich from airlines who already have deals themselves.

"Why shouldn't what's good for them be good for us?"
But United, Delta and Con-

tinental all argue there is greater competition for routes between Frankfurt and the US. Delta claimed it had "no problems with slots to Frankfurt compared with the situation at Heathrow." United said it had 34 per cent

of services from Frankfurt to the US, compared with Delta's 23.6 per cent. BA prefers to compare European routes in general rather than focusing on its privileged position at Heathrow. BA said: "This deal can only lead to lower fares, more competition and greater choice."



Richard Branson: Attacked the BA-American alliance

Continental, United and Delta last night denied they were combining lobbying efforts in an attempt to sink the alliance. But they admit their campaign

against BA was unprecedented. "It's unprecedented, but so is this proposed deal. It's breathtaking, it's so ludicrous," said Barry Simon, Continental's vice-president for Europe.

Eurotherm boss gets investors' backing TOM STEVENSON City Editor

Institutional investors, including Mercury Asset Management. the Prudential, Royal Insurance and Schroders, looked certain last night to win their attempt to reinstate Clacs Hultman as chief executive of the industrial control manufactur-er Eurotherm. Mr Hultman resigned two weeks ago after failing in an attempt to oust Jack Leonard, Eurotherm's chairman, who is expected to agree

to carly retirement. Talks between the company and its most influential institutional investors to thrash out a compromise solution broke up last night with no settlement but a deal is expected this week.

The negotiations represent the latest development in an acrimonious boardroom bust-up that has pitched the institutions against Eurotherm's nonexecutive directors who, the institutions believe, forced out the man who had transformed

the company. Eurotherm's largest shareholders had known little about Mr Hultman's attempted coup and were furious when the blocking of his plan to replace Mr Leonard effectively forced him to resign. During his tenure as chief exec-utive, Eurotherm's profits have soared from £7m to £34m.

Investors were dismayed at Mr Hultman's resignation and on the day of the announcement the value of the company fell 12 per cent from £530m to £470m. Many feared that without him at the helm, the shares would never again reach their previous levels.

The coup attempt split the board, with finance director Robert Biddle, chief operating officer Peter Wade, and 81 yearold founder James Hartnett backing Mr Hultman. Comment, page 17

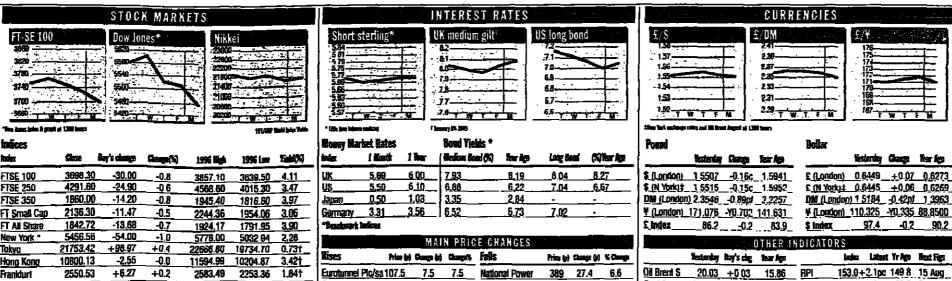
new positions on offer See pages 18 - 22 section two

A 5 page section covering all

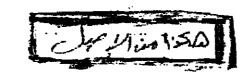
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Thent revolution

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it is quite prepared

to pay dividends

Out of capital'

A bargain basement offer all too easy to refuse The array of excuses trotted out yesterday for the meltdown in British Energy's share price was truly atom-splitting in its range, in The array of excuses trotted out yesterday for the meltdown in British Energy's share price was truly atom-splitting in its range, in The array of excuses trotted out yesterday for the meltdown in British Energy's share price was truly atom-splitting in its range, in The array of excuses trotted out yesterday for the meltdown in British Energy's share price was truly atom-splitting in its range, in The array of excuses trotted out yesterday for the meltdown in British Energy's share price was truly atom-splitting in its range, in The array of excuses trotted out yesterday for the meltdown in British Energy's share price was truly atom-splitting in its range, in The array of excuses trotted out yesterday for the meltdown in British Energy's share because it is a second to be a sec

price was truly atom-splitting in its range, ingenuity and novelty. In no particular order we were told it was due to the weakness of the Dow, intra-dealing among market-mak-ers. Sir Dennis Rooke's unhelpful comments about British Gas shareholders having been conned, misconceived attempts by re-tail investors to stag the issue and, of course, that old favourite, short-selling,

And don't forget that the Docklands Light Railway also broke down and the pollen count was high. We are still checking the sun spots. Many and varied are the fac-tors which influence share prices in newly privatised stocks, or so the sponsors would have us believe. The Government and its advisers around at BZW show every intention of brazening out this latest embarrassment in much the same way as they have ignored every other setback in the rush to nuclear privatisation.

Whichever way you emerge from under this mushroom cloud of explanations, the picture does not look pretty. If the price was undermined by a wave of selling from small investors hoping for a fast buck but instead getting a swift loss, it suggests either that the Sids have learnt nothing from a decade of popular capitalism or that the Government's dream of share-holding democracy

If the answer lies in an investment strike by institutions then the implications are equally

realistic assessment British Energy is likely to prove a stupendous cash cow for the next 40 years and if that is not enough it is quite prepared to pay dividends out of capital,

It is just as well the Government now has nothing left to sell. It is some political achievement to short-change simultaneachievement to short-change simultaneachievement. ously both taxpayers and investors. This time there isn't even Professor Stephen Littlechild or Clare Spottiswoode to pin the

Institutions used brawn, not brains

Eurotherm's temperature controls and sensors are hardly the most exciting of products but the shenanigans in its boardroom have made compulsive viewing over the past two weeks. If Clacs Hultman, the autocratic Swede who huffed out of the company after failing to oust its chairman, is reinstated it will represent a first in the colourful history of corporate bust-ups.

If there has been another instance of a chief executive demanding to be made executive chairman, being over-ruled by his company's non-executives, resigning, being wooed back by a couple of powerful institutions and returning to exactly the job he resigned, it has passed us by. It is hard to roles of chairman and chief executive and regard our credit worthiness. Only organi-

Unfortunate though most aspects of this story have been, it does throw up a number of corporate governance issues with impli-cations far beyond the otherwise not so very important case of the succession at a middle-ranking industrial controls group. As in the recent case of Farnell's ultimately succossful hid to takeover an American rival, Premier, institutions are becoming increasingly prepared to throw their weight around. It is by no means clear who benefits from their more and more public belligerence.

One of the most curious aspects of this boardroom tiff is why it happened at all. The fact that Mr Hultman should fall out with Jack Leonard, Eurotherm's chairman, comes as no surprise. Not known for his charm or reticence, Mr Hultman has done a fantastic job in turning round Eurotherm's fortunes. In the process he has put a number of noses out of joint. But why he could not have waited until Mr Leonard's planned retirement next February to flex his muscles remains a mystery.

Equally unclear is how non-executives, al of whom have first hand experience of working with strong-willed company bosses, allowed themselves to be manoeuvred into the position of effectively ousting the man who had saved the company. It is plainly

man Ernest Saunders. In a small to medium sized company, combining the roles of chairman and chief executive is perfectly ecceptable practice.

As for the Pru and MAM, the leading agitators, it could be fairly claimed that they have overstepped their remit. Certainly as owners of a business they have a strong interest in the composition of the board, but if they are to strong arm non-executives into reversing the decisions they are appointed to make then why bother appointing them in the first place? If institutions want to start actively interfering in the management of companies, then they should also accept the share trading limitations that go with such responsibilities. But they won't of course. Nobody emerges with any credit from this sorry little episode.

The pound is not a sterling performer

\$2bn Eurobond issue yesterday. The bond was subscribed at a premium of just five basis points above US Treasuries, putting the UK right at the top end of the top bracket

countries pay a great deal more.

The Bank is right to describe the issue as "a triumph". Unfortunately its not quite the same story when it comes to borrowing in sterling. International investors may think the UK's credit worthiness top notch, but they still don't much like the currency in which it still don't much like the currency in which it does the great bulk of its borrowing. When it comes to investing in bonds denominated in our own inflation prone currency - the poor old pound - they still demand top dolheating. So inflation will stay low, he insisted. What a shame the markets are so sceptical.

The Bank of England could scarcely conceal its glee at the success of its surprise

lar. The Government is forced to borrow in sterling at a considerable premium to the price the US pays for its own, dollar-denominated borrowings. This concise measure of the Government's anti-inflation credibility or lack of it has shown a widening gap between the rates on UK and other gov-ernment debt since early in 1994. It is a phe-nomenon that has troubled the Bank of England and goes a long way to explain its discreet opposition to Kenneth Clarke's base rate decisions. The Chancellor was none the less displaying his usual sunny disposition yesterday. He told members of the Treasury Select Committee that, as far as the economy goes, we will be able to have our cake and eat it too, along with cocktail sausages and crisps and a beer or two. Growth is picking up, government borrowing is on a downward path, and the economy is not over-

City trading: Automated share settlement system will demolish mountain of paperwork and cut costs

Crest gets settled in at Exchange

Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, officially launched the Crest automated share settlement system yesterday, which will remove mountains of paper from institutional back offices, urites John Willcock.

Also present were Howard Davies, Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, and Pen Kent, chairman of CrestCo. The Crest system, developed by the Bank over the past three years and owned by 69 financial institutions, began operations at 4am.

Crest's annual running costs of £35m are roughly half those of Talisman, the paper-based system. The Government asked the Bank to develop Crest after the Stock Exchange's own proiect. Taurus, failed at a cost to the City of around £400m.



Making waves: Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, (above) said, 'The launch of Crest takes share transfer in London into a new era. It will help keep City Diary, page 18 London at the cutting edge as one of the world's leading financial centres'

the first half of June, while

footwear sales were the best for

of electronic goods, aside from

The football-mania hit sales

months.

IN BRIEF

 The Confederation of British Industry today calls for an extra £25bn to be pumped into the country's transport system over the next decade to reduce congestion, create jobs, improve competitiveness and stimulate inward investment. A report from the employers organisation says that annual spending should increase from £8.75bn a year over the past 10 years to £11.25bn a year over the next, with the share of investment accounted for by the roads programme falling from 66 per cent to 62 per cent. Private finance could provide a third of the investment necessary to complete key projects such as the Birmingham Northern Relief Road, upgrading the West Coast Mainline and modernisation of the London Underground.

· Electrabel, the Belgian utility, yesterday snapped up a 1.5 per cent stake in ScottishPower as part of a technology co-operation agreement between the two companies. Electrabel, which is 40 per cent-owned by the engineering conglomerate Tractabel, said it would limit its shareholding to a maximum of 5 per cent for two years. There are no plans for ScottishPower to buy a cross-shareholding.

 Some of New York's largest securities firms will have to begin random taping of conversations of traders at their over-the-counter desks as part of a settlement with the United States Justice Department into allegations of price-fixing on the Nasdaq exchange. In return for increased in-house surveillance by the firms, the government will end its two-year investigation without filing criminal charges or imposing fines. However, the introduction of taping systems is expected to cost companies up to \$1m (£645,000) each. Hitherto, US securities firms have not recorded over-thecounter transactions.

• Cable & Wireless has sold its 51 per cent stake in Mercury Paging to a US management team for £36m. Mobile Telecommunications Technology Corp, which has 29 per cent of Mercury Paging, and Motorola Inc., which has 20 per cent, have also sold their stakes to the management team for a total £24m. C&W will continue no services to its customers e age or an integrated communications solution. The operation of the paging services will be outsourced to the new team.

 Property letting in London's Docklands is at its highest level since development began 15 years ago, despite a huge IRA bomb in February which rocked the area near Canary Wharf tower. The London Docklands Development Corporation, which oversees development of the former docks, said more than 1.37 million sq feet of office space was let during 1995/96, compared with 1 million sq feet the previous year. LDDC's chairman Michael Pickard expects 90 per cent of the businesses which were forced out of their offices by the IRA bombing of South Quay would remain in the Docklands area.

Economic recovery gathers pace

Economics Editor

The economic recovery promised by Chancellor Kenneth Clarke gathered steam last month. Alongside another surge in high street spending came signs that the benefits were trickling down into the de-

June was the second-highest it had recorded in two and a half years, boosted by good weather

yesterday. The housing market continued to pick up, too, with the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors saying more estate agents were reporting rising prices than at any time since the

to share the fruits of recovery.

survey of big retailers. This was up from 6.2 per cent in May and around 4 per cent in the first four months of the year, indicating that the improving trend on the high street is being

Andrew Higginson, chairman of its economic affairs committee, said: "Consumer confidence and willingness to

ever-popular personal computers. But anything else related to the housing market china, curtains, furniture and carpets - sold well.

The survey noted that, apart from May, when official statistics for the value of retail sales fell unexpectedly, its indicator has tended to understate the actual growth of sales by about 1

prices since October 1988, it was dominated by London and the South-east, A balance of 78 per cent of estate agents in the region said prices increased, fuelled by an acute shortage of properties for sale.

revival of the housing market

was provided by estate agents.

A net balance of 30 per cent of

agents said prices went up rather

than down in the three months

to the end of June compared

with three months to the end of

May, according to the monthly

survey by the Royal Institution

of Chartered Surveyors. The highest balance of rising

The national average of homes for sale per agent stands at just 124, the lowest figure since spring 1989.

There were tentative signs that the upturn in housing is bringing relief to hard-pressed builders. The April-June survey of the construction industry reported the first improvement in output since the beginning of 1995, although the rise was

Paul Shepherd, chairman of the Building Employers Con-federation, said: We can at last begin to see some light at the end of a very long, dark tunnel." He warned, however, that the outlook for employment in the industry was still bleak. "We

els." he said. creases in private housing, in-

need a continued regime of low

interest rates and inflation lev-The improvement in output last quarter was due to industrial and commercial demand, along with non-housing repair and maintenance.

supplying General Electric Capital Aviation Services with 40 aircraft from the short-range A320 family and five ultra-long range Airbus A340s. All the aircraft will be powered by CFM56 en-gines, made by a joint venture between GE and Sneema of France. The deal comes a week after the four Airbus partners agreed

Airbus

lands

\$2.5bn

jet order

Airbus Industrie, the four-

yesterday stole a march on its arch-rival Boeing by landing a

\$2.5bn (£1.6bn) order for 45 iets

from the leasing arm of US cor-

worth nearly \$5bn if options for

a further 45 aircraft are turned

Airthus, in which British Aero-

space has a 20 per cent stake, is

poration General Electric. The deal could eventually be

into firm orders.

nation aircraft manufacturer.

MICHAEL HARRISON

to convert the consortium into a single corporate entity and will serve as a fillip to Airbus as it fights to erode Boeing's domination of the market. This the first order Airbus has received from GECAS and

increases Airbus's firm order book so far this year to 188 air-craft worth \$13.5bn against 106 orders in the whole of last year. Jean Pierson, managing di-

rector of Airbus, said: "The decision by GECAS to invest in our aircraft for the first time and in such significant numbers further consolidates the strong market appeal of our new generation products and reflects the continuing growth of our world market share."

Sales of the A320 family stand at 1,060 firm orders from 49 customers while the A330-A340 family has captured 321 firm orders from 41 airlines, giving it 44 per cent of the market for aircraft in the 250-350 seat range, Airbus said,

Deliveries of the A 319. A320/A321 jets are due to begin in the middle of next year and continue at a rate of 10-15 aircraft a year up to 2001. The A340s will be delivered between 1999 and 2001. Airbus has set itself the target of becoming a full public company with its own assets and equity by 1999.





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INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS

pressed construction industry. spend has certainly improved. The growth in retail sales in construction output increased in and this is reflected in greater the second quarter of the year, the first rise since early 1995. optimism among retailers." Retail sales were 7 per cent

and the housing market, the higher than a year earlier, the British Retail Consortium said BRC reported in its monthly

property boom. Builders are finally beginning

according to the Building Employers Confederation. It said

sustained.

The weather and Euro 96 boosted beer sales. The sun-

shine helped clothing sales in percent. Chancellor cheers doubting MPs

Kenneth Clarke, Chancellor of the Exchequer, raised hopes of both tax cuts and lower interest rates as he told MPs yesterday that the economy was poised for strong acceleration in growth without any risk of inflation ernment budget towards balance

picking up.
In buoyant mood, he shrugged off the shortfall in tax revenues below the Treasury's earlier forecasts which led him to announce big upward revisions in targets for the Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (PSBR) last week.

"A PSBR forecast that is only out by £4.5bn is not bad by historical standards," he assured the House of Commons Treasury Select Committee yesterday. "The key to policy is that borrowing must be kept firmly on a downward path."

OFF. I

Mr Clarke reaffirmed the commitment to bring the Gov-

The new system, developed

over three years at a cost of £70m

and aimed at replacing the 10-

year old 2000 series, hoasts ac-

cess to an extensive historical data

base, a feed from Reuters Tele- markets."

A buoyant Kenneth Clarke is shrugging off tax revenue shortfall, writes Diane Covle

in the medium term. But he agreed that lower than expected inflation had created some £3.5bn in slack in current public spending plans.

Reducing the spending target he that amount would be more than enough to cut the basic rate of income tax by a penny, provided there is no further slippage in the PSBR. Mr Clarke said there was no

satisfactory explanation of the shortfall in tax revenues below the Treasury's earlier forecasts. But he added that revenues were growing - just not as quickly as he had expected.

The forecasts are treated

ridiculously. They will be quite

different this time next year. I guarantee you a pound to a penny," he said. The Chancellor defended his

optimistic outlook for growth in the second half of this year. In new forecasts last week he predicted it would climb from under 2 per cent in the first half of the year to nearly 4 per cent in the second half. "My confident views are becoming ever more

widely shared," he said However, the Chancellor denied that this view was inconsistent with his decision to cut the level of base rates last month. He said he gave most weight to the direction of the real economy in setting interest rates.

"People are warning me of a

risk of overheating in the economy when at the moment we are still at a rather low temperature." he said, in a remark sure to be taken as leaving scope for a fur-ther cut in base rates. Mr Clarke and Eddie George,

Governor of the Bank of England, are due to hold their next monetary meeting on 30 July. Mr Clarke said he was surprised the Office for National Statistics had not yet revised up its figures for GDP earlier this year, adding that he had decided not to raise interest rates last May because he had not believed the statistics.

This swipe at the figures follows his recent statement that his Treasury "boffins" had made mistakes and his criticism last week of the Bank of England's inflation fore-casts. Mr Clarke added insult to

injury: "I did not accuse them of bad forecasts. I simply said their forecasts had always been wrong."

M&G, which speaks for 7.36 would vote in favour of the package at next Monday's egm.

Costain's hopes of securing approval for a controversial refi-Costain has no plans to meet its

so far made no comment about per cent of the company, said it their intentions.

The rescue deal involves a £73.6m share issue that would give up to 40 per cent of the enlarged share capital to a Malaysian construction group. Intria

Reuters' 3000 guns for rivals The system will be delivered vision, and what analysts yester-day said was the best interna-from the second half of 1996, MATHEW HORSMAN Media Editor tional data available through

rector, UK and Ireland, said:

Since we launched the 2000 se-

ries, there has been a phenom-

enal number of changes and

upheavals in the financial

dedicated screen systems. Reuters, the financial in-This latest series certainly ormation company, yesterday inched its long-awaited 3000 takes Reuters one step beyond Bloomberg." Brian Newman series information system in at Henderson Crostinwaite, said the UK and Ireland, in a highyesterday. "It is far more userstakes bid to see off increased friendly and will definitely incompetition from competitors crease Reuters' market share." such as US-based supplier John Parcell, managing di-Bloomberg.

but is unlikely to have an impact on pre-tax profits until 1997. Analysis expect international banks and large fund managers to be the first to upgrade from the Renters 2000 series, although most current users are expected to switch

within the next five years. The new system is priced at about 5 per cent more than the 2000, but offers what Reuters yesterday called the "most comprehensive product packages introduced for nearly a

M&G backing boosts Costain rescue hopes

out in support of the deal, writes Patrick Tooher.

Alan Lovell, Costain's chief executive, said he would be meeting other institutional shareholders this week in a bid

nancing package received a two biggest investors - Kuwaiti boost yesterday when one of the construction firm Kharafi and biggest shareholders in the trou- Saudi-based Raymond Internabled construction group came tional - which between them hold 38 per cent of the company. The Middle East investors have

Light at end of tunnel for P&O

The 9p rise in P&O's share price yesterday to 492p represented a welcome respite after almost three years of dramatic underperformance by the container shipping to ferries, cruises and property conglomerate.

The bounce will, however, have capped a bad 48 hours for Lord Sterling, the group's chairman. He won't have relished the implied confirmation of a Sunday newspaper survey of fund managers suggesting that most of the

large institutions were after his head. The poor performance of P&O in recent years partly reflected the market's disenchantment with conglomerates generally. But there are a number of company-specific problems that P&O

is struggling to overcome. Put together in a haphazard way over many years, P&O is a ragbag of unrelated interests, a fact tacitly acknowledged in March when Lord Sterling pre-empted calls for a break-up by promising a £1bn disposal and flotation programme to create a more focused group with fewer, larger divisions.

The programme, which included the flotation of Bovis Homes, and the sale of £500m of investment properties would, Lord Sterling hoped, return the group to operating margins of 15 per cent, a level P&O had not achieved in more than a decade.

It would also generate the cash to continue paying a 30.5p dividend, the level of the payout for years now and patently unsustainably high in the ab-sence of the cash provided by property sales in the boom years of the 1970s and 1980s. Inflation has always bailed P&O out; now the company was showing signs of learning to live in a less favourable environment.

That was the theory. Since then the shares have continued to underperform as the market focused on the fact that. while P&O's businesses are not intrinsically badly run, they are operating in difficult markets. Commercial property is in the doldrums, container shipping is fiercely competitive and generates a return on assets little better than a building society account, and the cross-Channel ferry market has been clobbered by the Channel Tunnel.

As a result, analysts have steadily edged forecasts back and last year's fall in profits from £350m to £320m, itself a collapse from 1993's £521m, is unlikely to be rectified this year. Profits of per-

haps 1315m are the consensus now. There is some light at the end of the tunnel, however, and if, as expected, the Government clears the way this week for 50 me sort of co-operation between F&O and Stena on the hard-hit cross-Channel routes then prospects could brighten considerably for one of the group's largest and most troubled divisions. The other good news is that PAO's dividend looks reasonably safe. At almost 8 per cent, the gross income on that payout looks increasingly attractive at more than twice the rate of

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN much further will be difficult in an increasingly competitive environment, es-

EDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

inflation and, if nothing else, it puts a £12.7m contribution from acquisisolid floor under the share price. Lord Sterling may still have an uphill strug-gle to rebuild bridges with the City, but the shares look good value.

Ellis rides the chemical bronco

For a company ostensibly exposed to the vagaries of the chemical price cycle. Ellis and Everard's track record is second to none. As Jonathan Taylor, chairman of the Bradford-based chemicals distributor, highlighted yesterday, earnings per share and pre-tax profits have almost doubled in the last three years, a period which has seen massive swings in chemicals prices. The share price has responded accordingly, nearly doubling from a low of 153p at the end

of 1992 to 282p yesterday. Results for the year to April once again make impressive reading. Stripping out a one-off £7.7m charge taken on last year's sale of a swimming pool equipment and food and drink hygiene business, pre-tax profits rose 22 per cent to a record £25.6m on turnover 11 per cent up at £571m. Earnings per share were 8 per cent higher at 20p, while the 9.2p payout is a tenth up on last year.

The sales figure includes a maiden

tions, including Rhode Island-based George Mann which made Ellis the fifth-largest chemicals distributor in the

have been bought so far this year and should add £60m to turnover. Cost control is another key to Ellis's success. Despite the increased level of business, distribution and administrative expenses rose by only 2-3 percentage points, squeezing operating margins higher.

US. Almost half of profits come from

across the pond. All told, five businesses

Tight working capital control and strong cash flow also did wonders for the balance sheet. Gearing halved to 16 per cent, despite Ellis splashing out 4m on acquisitions.

strained going forward.

Having re-focused on chemicals dis-

tribution and sold off loss-makers, Ellis increasingly relies on corporate activity to drive profits ahead. While the track record in this area is good, the number of earnings-enhancing deals out there is not infinite.

Second, the commodity chemicals cycle is becoming less volatile, making stock profits more difficult to achieve while raising the prospect of stock losses being incurred.

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able record of the nation in the final years of

the 20th century, and your photograph and

name could be there for all to see.

And pushing up operating margins

| | | .98bn, share | | | |
|---|-------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------|--------|
| Five-Year record | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 |
| | 4.90 | 5.53 | 5.72 | 5.99 | 6.57 |
| Pre-tax profits (£m) | 204 | 209 | 257 | 341 | 332 |
| juglije grubaa (jenis) ta | 19 R | ? € 22,6 | 30.2 | 87.7 | . 40.1 |
| Dividends per share (pence) | 30.5 | 30.5 | 30.54 | 30.5 . | 30.5 |
| Shareholders funds | 2bn | Sha | are price | pence . | |
| 30 | | 750 — | | E variation | : |
| 25 | | 700 — | | | |
| | | 650 | | | 77. |
| | | 550 | | | |
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| 15 2 3 4 5 | | 400 | | | |
| | 7 | 300 | en des | ** | |
| 1991 92 93 94 | 95 | 199 | 92 93 | 94 95 | 98 |

pecially in the US.

Analysts nudged up their profits forecasts for the full year by about £500,000 to £29.5m, suggesting a forward price-earnings ratio of less than 13 with the shares at 282p. That is an undemanding rating, but probably is an accurate reflection of more subdued prospects going forward. Hold.

Shandwick gets connected

Investors who bought shares in Shandwick International, the public relations firm, at just a little more than 4p back in the nadir days of 1992 have reason to be grateful for the company's return to favour since the recession. That is not much consolation, of course, for However, there are several reasons to believe that the recent rapid rate growth is likely to be a little more restrained going forward.

How interpretations of course, for those who have been on the share holder register since the heady days of late 1991, when the thrusting, globetrotting firm was being built, and the

shares soared as high as 136p.
Today, at a price of 50p, it looks like the bad old days are gone even if the pre-recession heights will not be scaled anytime soon. Unveiling sparkling results yesterday for the first half of 1996. with pre-tax profits ahead nearly 11 per cent to £3.6m on revenues 12.6 per cent up to £58.8m, the company confi-dently predicted double-digit growth in the second half and beyond. The impetus is a roster of leading clients, and the prospect of even more business from truly global customers, who want to take advantage of Shandwick's expensively built network in Europe, Asia Pacific, the UK and the US.

Indications that there are, indeed, such global clients were proved by two key account wins: Digital Equipment and MasterCard. Both see Shandwick, the world's largest "independent" PR firm, as being capable of providing full-service public relations in all the key markets in which they operate.

Big spenders like this can be crucial to future growth. The average spend of all clients is a modest £60,000 a year. The big three, however should account for £2m or more a year each, helping to drive revenues forward nicely.

Shandwick has also branched out impressively into Internet-related services (building web pages, for example), having followed customer demand.

Looking ahead, full-year pre-tax profits ought to reach £9m, climbing to £10m in 1997. With current year earnings per share likely to hit 4.7p, the stock is on an undernanding multiple of about 11 times. As a company that this past year outperformed the market by 25 per cent in earnings terms but underperformed by 25 per cent in share-price terms, there appears to be _ample room for growth.

The best laid plans with mice and chancellors ...

CITY DIARY

JOHN WILLCOCK

We all knew about Ken Clarke's brown suede shoes. his pints and panatellas, It was worrying, however, to see the guardian of the nation's finances struggling to launch

Crest vesterday lunchtime.
To be sure, the "launch" of the automated share-settlement system was the merest of media stunts - the actual system had been switched on

at four in the morning. The Chancellor duly turned up at Crest's plush new offices overlooking St Katherine's Docks, with bankers and Treasury mandarins in tow. Even a beaming Sir Iain Vallance of BT was there (if BT's Syntegra, part of Crest. crashes, then its his fault).

All our Ken had to do was tan a computer mouse twice and the screen provided would then announce "the launch of Crest". Which he did once, but only photographers saw. The huge mob of grandees and staff were at the other end of the build-

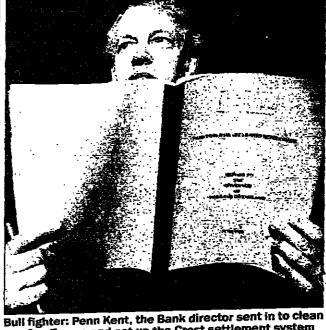
ing, quaffing champagne. So Ken decided to launch it again, But, as he confessed. Tetting me loose with a mouse is always reckless".

A team of spin doctors leapt forward and reprogrammed the screen, but the Chancellor tapped the mouse to no avail. "Tap it twice. TWICE, squeaked a Treasury underling. And lo, it was launched.

The Crest system is really the baby of two men, Pen Kent, the Bank of England director sent in by the Government to clean up after the Taurus mess, and Ian Saville,

The London Docklands Development Corporation is in the process of winding down, and is determined to present a glow-ing picture of its achievements, Yet even as Michael Pickard, chairman of the LDDC, was outlining its triumphs yesterday at the launch of its annual report, the Docklands Light Rail-

computer system that keeps crashing. Yesterday, sweating passengers were informed of a signal failure, and then told that "the computer system had crashed and they would have to reboot the system". The report trills: "Research has shown that the DLR is itself the single most popular tourist attraction to London Docklands."



up after Taurus and set up the Crest settlement system

the ebullient chief executive of Crest, also from the Bank. They formed a "Mr Nice and Mr Nasty" due, according to one senior banker, bludgeoning the vested interests which sank Taurus into submission.

Mr Saville started the Crest project with a bushy moustache, but shaved it off two years ago. This was nothing to do with the project, a spokesman stressed, but on the instructions of his wife.

National Savings has snapped up Lloyds's former personnel director as its new chief executive. Peter Bareau. a violin-playing Old Etonian, has spent most of his career

way was suffering one of its most spectacular failures.

The DLR, Docklands's only link to central London apart from miles of traffic-clogged roads, is in the command of a

Hmm. How about a masochists' convention?

with Lloyds Bank International, much of it half way up the Amazon. Boring high street bankers used to refer to such exotic creatures enviously as "the Orinoco boys".

Several years ago. Mr Barcau was called back, and became personnel director. The TSB merger swept this job away and although Mr Bareau has not yet had his leaving party, he has been

open to offers for some time. He's certainly less likely to catch malaria in National Savings's Kensington High Street head office.

So who is Claes Hultman. chief executive of Eurotherm, the electronic equipment manufacturer, who left in a huff when the non-execs wouldn't allow him to become chairman as well?

Now the institutions have almost put him back in the saddle, we can reveal that he is 49. Swedish, and spends one month a year on a small island he owns off the Swedish coast. His most famous saying is: Power isn't something you

get, its something you grab." With a little help, from the Pru and MAM, it seems.

Have a heart

What does the Heart of Britain mean to you? Send in your photographs, now, and they could live forever as one of 300 chosen by our celebrity judges to appear in the "Heart of Britain" book.

There are nine chapters in the book, which might give you some ideas:

Young Britain, Caring Britain, Animal Britain, Britain on the Move, Sporting Britain, Good Time Britain, Beautiful Britain, Working Britain and Tomorrow's Britain.

The picture judged best in each category wins an Olympus Mju-1 compact camera.



Send a picture Now!

In support of Royal Brompton Hospital, the leading edge in heart research and treatment.

Supported by AMV Group, Bookman Projects, Dixons, Hallfax Building Society, Heart 106.2, Hillsdown Holdings, London Kensington Hilton, Love this Records, Marks and Spencer, Next

"Calls will last less than one minute and are charged in 1997 and cheap race. Mounts all other times. All profits will be denoted to Heart of British Appeal, Lines close 1800 July 1996.

BAT revamps financial services gin to sell its own badged unit company said that Eagle Star trust and other lump-sum in-

NIC CICUTTI

BAT, the tobacco giant ves-terday announced that it was rationalising its UK financial services operations, including Allied Dunbar, Eagle Star and Threadncedie Asset Manage-ment, under a single umbrella company.
British American Financial

Services (BAFS) will oversee the development of the three brands, which will aim to cater for different sections of the financial services market.

BAFS believes it can save about £50m a year by bringing some operations under com mon management, although it declined yesterday to say whether reductions in staff would follow.

At the same time, the com-



Paul Manduca: 'A truly highcalibre team is in place'

looking to develop activities in new areas, including healthcare and savings products, possibly by acquisition.

pany confirmed that it was still agament arm of BAT, will be-

Threadneedle, the fund man-

vestment products to savers. Its products will also be sold by AJied Dunbar's salesforce, whose unit trusts will be branded under the Threadneedle name. Allied Dunbar will concentrate on advice to middle-market and professional customers,

through its own direct salesforce and via the independent financial advice distribution channel. By contrast, Eagle Star will develop what the company yesterday called a "directassurance arm", a telephone-based

range of general insurance, plus simple life and pensions products aimed at the mass

Its own unit trust operation, while continuing with the Eagle Star brand name, will also be

would be focused on "consumers who want to be in control of the buying process and want to satisfy their needs in quick and simple ways".

BAT's reorganisation follows a review of its entire financial services operation lasting several months.

Although Eagle Star has a high reputation outside the UK, and is a strong force in the UK general insurance market. some experts had suggested the company might lose the right to brand any life and pensions products.

Paul Manduca, chief executive at the fund manager, said: Now we have a truly high-calibre team in place. We also aim to develop into a truly global investment house, managing managed by Threadneedle. The money into all markets.

In Brief

 Pentland Group intends to reject Warmaco Group Inc's offer for its 23 per cent shareholding in Authentic Fitness Corp. the licensee for Pentland's Speedo brand in North America, Mexito and the Caribbean. The offer values the holding at \$100m (£64.5m), but this may fluctuate with the trading price of War-naco shares. Pentland said. Stephen Rubin, chairman of Pent-land, said: "We have no objection in principle to the acquisition of AFC by Warnaco ... [but] we believe the current offer does not recognise the future prospects for AFC and does not represent sufficient value for AFC's shareholders

• Life Numbers, which specialises in the sale of personal telephone numbers, is seeking admission to the Alternative Invest-ment Market. The company has raised £600,000 through a placing, handled by Corporate Synergy, which will enable it to recruit staff, fund a national advertising campaign and purchase new equipment. Separately, SCi Entertainment Group, a developer and puls lisher of interactive entertainment software, intends to seek admission to AIM later this month, by means of a placing by Peel

• MEPC has exchanged contracts to buy Caledonian Land for £29m cash. The purchase price reflects a property valuation of approximately £83m together with debt to be assumed by MEPC of £54m. Caledonian has a portfolio of 25 properties totalling 340,000 sq metres, the majority of which are industrial estates located in the area of Glasgow through to Edinburgh.

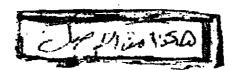
 BOC Group is making its first move into Russia's industrial gas industry. The company has signed a conditional agreement to acquire a controlling interest in the Volgograd Oxygen Factory, one of Russia's top three industrial gases companies. and the leading supplier to industry and hospitals in southern

| | Tumover £ | Pre-tax £ | EPS | Dividend |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------|
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| Etdes (†) | 3 71m (0.25m) | -1 95m (-0.11m) | -44 Gp (-4.16p) | a# (-) |
| ERS & Everant (F) | 585(II (5 (4m) | 25.6m (13.3m) | 20p (8.9p) | 9.2p (2.4p) |
| Shandwick irti (l) | 89 2m (79.2m) | 3.6m (3.22m) | 1 9p (1.7p) | 0 43p (0 43p |
| (F) - Rhod (I) - thlenm | (†) - Current figure | s 15 milis, compan | utives 12 mits | |

New Interest Rates For Capital Trust Investors. RATES EFFECTIVE FROM 15TH JULY 1996. CAPITAL TRUST 30 ACCOUNT - ANNUAL INTEREST £50,000 £20,000 6.00% 4.60% £5.000 5.50% CAPITAL TRUST 30 ACCOUNT - MONTHLY INTEREST 5.75% 4.60% £20,000 4.40% £5,000 4.20% CAPITAL TRUST ACCOUNT £100,000+ 5.10% 4.08% £20,000 4.85% 3.88% 3.76% £10,000 4.70% CAPITAL TRUST ACCOUNT - MONTHLY INTERE Min Investme Gross CAR** £100.000+ 4.201 £50,000 4.95% 5.06% 4.80% 3.96% 4.70% 4.60% £2,000 For new account enquiries telephone 01538 392808 Britannia Building Sodety P.O. Box 555 Leek Staffordshire 51'13 5NF



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In praise of the portfolio investment revolution

It might seem a bad moment, with equity markets wobbly worldwide, to sing in praise of portfolio investment. But two recent studies of the financial services industry highlight the enormous importance that portfolio investment is taking on for the world economy in general and for Britain in particular. For we are in the middle of a revolution in the scale and significance of cross-border portfolio investment. It is a creeping revolution, which is why it attracts little attention; but it is a revolution

The two studies were last week's figures from British invisibles on the City of London's foreign earnings; and the annual survey of equity fund management, ranking the largest cities of the world, from the New

York research group Technimetries.
The City Table, as it is called, attracted some attention because it showed that net overseas earnings of the UK financial sector last year topped £20bn for the first time. Of that, £7.2bn was portfolio investment income - there was another billion of direct investment income and the remaining £12bn was income from vices. To put that £7.2bn figure in perspective, it is more than twice the size of the current account deficit last year of £2.9bn, and more than half the size of the shortfall on physical trade. £11.6bn or the deficit on government transactions of just under £12bn. So at the margin, the City's portfolio income is enormously important

It has one further attraction aside from its size: it is regular. While the trade account swings from one extreme to the other, and the rest of the invisible trade account is also subject to fluctuations, the portfolio component is steadily climbing. It has

Foreign Exchange Rates



ECONOMIC VIEW HAMISH MCRAE

Now look at portfolio investment, not from a balance of payments point of view but from the point of view of the fund management industry, as shown in the Technimetrics study. The obvious headline point here is that London now manages more than \$1,000bn (£645bn) of institu-tional equities, well ahead of New York, and second only to Tokyo on this measure. Thanks to the lack-lus-

risen from a surplus of £2.3bn 10 fifth of the size of the US. The answer more widely spread in North America than it is here; there are a host of important other fund management centres in the US, Boston in particular, whereas here only Edinburgh reaches the list at number 14. But the main reason is that London is not just managing UK money invested in UK shares. New York is principally placing US finds into US equities, Tokyo, Japanese savings into Japanese tre performance of Japanese share shares; but London is running in-

Western societies must save more of their GNP to cushion pension costs'

Interest Rates

prices last year, it significantly narrowed the gap with Tokyo: funds with the funds. managed here rose by more than 30 per cent while in Tokyo there was no movement at all. But of course the scoreboard can be distorted by swings in currencies and markets, and all US fund management centres last year were flattered by the strong US share performance. A crash on Wall Street and a recovery in Japanese share prices would quickly push Tokyo's position up again vis-a-vis New York and possibly London.

The pecking order of cities raises a further point: why is London a more important portfolio management centre than New York? The domestic market here is less than one-

Figures on this area are always hard to come by, and often harder to interpret. London is certainly the largest international equity management centre. We know that about 60-70 per cent of the world's crossborder equity trading takes place in London and it looks as though something like that proportion of cross-border fund management may also take place here. But we do not know much about the long-term trends of the business. We do not even know the answer to basic questions such as whether the trend will be to manage funds from the places

where the investments are placed (i.e.

manage Chinese shares from, say,

What we can see from this chart is partly that fund management is is a very concentrated industry - after

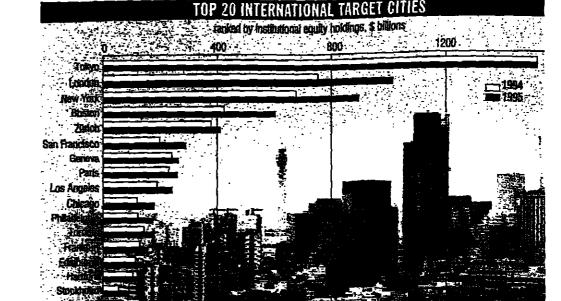
> alisation of financial markets still has a lot of momentum behind it. There is no evidence at all of a decline in the appetite for cross-border investment, nor does it seem to arouse the nationalistic responses that some cross-border takeovers seem to generate. It suits companies. Multinationals are seeking to broaden their shareholder base, seeing this as a useful way of establishing a local lobby of support in the countries in which they operate. And it suits investors to broaden the base of their savings, rather than relying too heavily on any one national market. While there is concern about some aspects of the power of international markets - in particular that of the foreign exchanges - there is less concern about

attracting international funds. The second is that the pool of global savings will rise very rapidly

Hong Kong even though the money comes from elsewhere), or whether management will move to where the savings are coming from (i.e. manage Chinese savings from Hong Kong even though the funds are placed elsewhere).

the top five the graph slopes away pretty last. This suggests that critical mass is an important factor in the comparative advantage of portfolio management centres. What we cannot see is whether portfolio management skills will become a relatively more important aspect of economic competition that they have been in the past. I think, however, they will for two broad reasons. The first is that the process of glob-

over the next 20 years. Ageing West-ern societies will have to save a larger proportion of their GNP to cushion



the cost of pensions for their older populations. Ageing will also affect what we think of as the newly industrialised countries, which already save a lot, as it has already affected

In theory this pool of savings could be redistributed by the banking system, but the last few years have demonstrated the limits of that. While banks will always have a place in the allocation of funds, it seems clear that markets will continue to play a greater relative role in allocation of savings for at least the next decade, maybe longer.

If managing this pool of savings will be a growing business, doing it well will be an economically impor-

At the moment we as individuals think of a well-managed pension fund as helping guarantee a good standard of living in retirement. Transfer that thought to an ageing country: a well-managed portfolio of investments will help guarantee a good standard of living for is future generations of retired people.

Since the war, investment income from abroad has for most countries been a tiny proportion of income

when set against current income from producing goods and services. It still is. That £7bn of portfolio income noted above is only about 1 per cent of our national income. But before the First World War the situation was

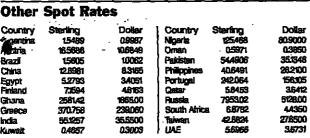
quite different. The UK received more than 10 per cent of its income from overseas investments. As savings mount, and as part of those savings are invested overseas, expect the proportion of earnings from this source to rise

Wise portfolio management will matter more and more.

London Metal Exchange

| - | | | | | |
|-------------|--------|---------|----------|--------|---|
| Country | Spot | 1 month | 3 months | Spot | 1 |
| US | 15507 | 5-3 | 3-0 | 1000 | |
| Canada | 21243 | 11-3 | 50-37 | 13700 | |
| Germany | 23546 | 48-41 | 140-130 | 15184 | |
| France | 79780 | 132-113 | 365-334 | 5:1450 | |
| Italy | 2385.1 | 48-63 | 142-166 | 15381 | |
| Japan | 17108 | 75-70 | 225-218 | 110.32 | - |
| EĆU | 12458 | 15-11 | 45-40 | 12448 | |
| Belgium | 48,504 | 12-7 | 32-25 | 31,280 | |
| Denmark | 90781 | 159-116 | 446-235 | 58544 | 1 |
| Netherlands | 28436 | 65-57 | 187-174 | 1.7048 | : |
| ireland | 0.9734 | 7-3 | 20-14 | 15930 | |
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| LIMINA. | 74700 | 132-113 | 300-334 | 5,7450 | T3-66 . | 217-2U/ [| 3.3884 |
|--------------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------|-----------|---------|
| Italy | 2385:1 | 48-63 | 142-166 | 15381 | 44-51 | 123-135 | 1012.97 |
| Japan | 17108 | 75-70 | 225-218 | 110.32 | 45-44 | 196-133 | 72,6587 |
| EĆU | 12458 | 15-11 | 45-40 | 12448 | 7-8 | 23-25 | 0.5291 |
| Belgium | 48,504 | 12-7 | 32-25 | 31280 | 6-5 | 18-16 | 205006 |
| Denmark | 90781 | 159-116 | 446-235 | 58544 | 85-65 | 270-220 | 3,8556 |
| Netherlands | 28436 | 65-57 | 187-174 | 17048 | 35-32 | 107-102 | 11228 |
| ireland | 09734 | 7-3 | 20-14 | 15930 | 4-7 | 12-17 | 0,4134 |
| Norway | 10,081 | 120-50 | 310-200 | 65010 | 42-17 | 110-60 | 4285 |
| Spein | 198.29 | 21-31 | 69-86 | 12738 | 23-27 | 64-72 | 84.2169 |
| Sweden | 10,445 | 0-6 | 1-9 | 6.7361 | 96-123 | 260-310 | 44363 |
| Switzerland | 19442 | 54-46 | 165-152 | 12538 | 37-34 | 113-107 | 0,8257 |
| Australia* | 19511 | 20-31 | 67-85 | 12582 | 19-21 | 54-56 | 0.8286 |
| Hong Kong | 12,000 | 101-61 | 224-170 | 77390 | 2-12 | 15-35 | 5,0968 |
| Malerysia. | 38642 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 24920 | 4-14 | 60-80 | 1B412 |
| New Zealand | 22619 | 43-57 | 133-156 | 14586 | 90-32 | 88-90 | 0.9606 |
| Saudi Arabia | 58:57 | 0-0 | 0-0 | 3,7505 | 2-7 | 9-14 | 24700 |
| Singapore | 2.1986 | G-O | 0-0 | 14185 | . 41-30 | 103-88 | 09342 |
| Other S | pot | Rate | 5 | | | | |



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| 329 23 | Menagasi Grown | 2690 | 25.50 | di.W | Prudential Unit 51-69 Word HS. | : Trusta L10 Herd, Essay, Y | 31 201 | | UK Equity | | 290.45 | 30982 62638 | d265 d263 | Euro Gros | Markets Ace m. Ace | 2202 10416 | 2343 11015 | 000 000 |
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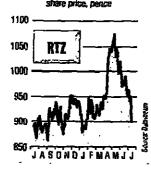
market report/shares

FT-SE 100 3698.3 -30,0 FT-SE 250 4291.6 -24.9 FT-SE 350

1860.0 -14.2 SEAQ VOLUME 667.2m shares, 30,821 bargains Gilts Index

SHARE SPOTLIGHT

92.83 +0.22



National Power tries to unplug Footsie with 145p dive

National Power made a de-termined bid to unplug Foot-ritory until a weak New York sie with its shares off a display had an unexpectedly staggering 145p at 389p.

There was nothing untoward at the UK's biggest gen-erator. It had merely picked yet another of those days when the of lower interest rates tossed stock market was wilting to re-ward its own shareholders.

NP's dividend has a gross valuation of 147p and a net worth of 117.6p. The payment, including a special dividend of 100p a share, had been known about for weeks and it was surprising the market was not prepared to factor it into its calculations much nearer the date of declaration rather than wait until the shares went ex-

No less than 10.2 points were wiped from the FT-SE 100 index by the NP payment. It could, therefore, be argued that NP was responsible for the poor start made by Footsie

crunching impact. Footsie ended the session 30 points down at 3,698,3 with, at least for the time being, hopes

It was another unhealthy session for hard-pressed British Biotech. Its shares gave up all pretence of holding above the crucial 2.050p rights price, ending 18p down at 2.040p. In response the nil-paid rights collapsed from 18p to just 2p; they were 403p a few weeks ago.

The £143.4m cash call closes tomorrow and there is clearly a very real possibility the underwriters, led by Kleinwort Benson, will for once be forced to earn their rich commissions and take up a large proportion of the shares,

Some have blamed the Bribio rights for much of the another 12-month low. Tomdisarray in biotech sector.



MARKET REPORT

DEREK PAIN

Stock market reporter of the year

There have been suggestions of cannibalisation as shares have been sold to provide funds for the Bribio issue.

RTZ, the resources giant, had another difficult session as another profit downgrading appeared in the wake of the Sumitomo fiasco. A cut by James Capel left the shares floundering at 900p, off another 16p. Capel has cut from £960m to £840m and from £1bn to £900m. Six weeks ago the shares were 1,074p.

Hanson remained depressed, down to 167p, and BTR suffered another humiliating slide, off 5.5p at 235.5p. kins, too, fell victim to the conglomerate discontent, losing its recent strength to fall 9p to

British Energy, already dubbed a privatisation too far, suffered its own form of meltdown. The partly-paid shares managed a modest 3p premium in early trading but col-lapsed under the weight of Sid selling, ending at 94p after touching 92.5p.

According to Seaq a stag-gering 163.6 million shares

were traded, around a quarter of the market's volume. It seemed many institutions,

allegedly underweight, decided to hold back and let the sheer power of private investor selling turn the Gov-

into the disaster many had for long predicted.

Enrotherm rallied 13p to 547p on chatter departing chief executive Claes Hultman could retain an important role.

Tesco was again haunted by the possibility of a French strike. It now seems as inevitable as a wonky supermarket trolley that it will be tempted into a £2.5bn bid for Docks de France, the beleaguered French supermarket chain. Any such excursion will force Tesco into a hefty cash

P&O rose 9p to 492p. apparently reflecting satisfaction with the institutional view chairman Lord Sterling should bid a sad farewell and reports of property sales and hopes of more relaxation on its ferry op-

Civil Aviation Authority pricing package BAA, the airports

the interactive TV group, had a difficult session, falling a further 100p to 335p although there were indications of di-

rector-buying at 340p. Tunstall's profit warning removed a further 32p to 278p and Cardeast's admission it had yet to sign a deal with Credit Mutual, the French group, lowered the shares 7p to 73p. Eidos. the video technology group, slumped 62p to 683p on a near-£2m loss.

Fayrewood, an audio equipment group, made an upbeat AIM debut, reaching 43p from 36p placing.

Goldsborough, the health-

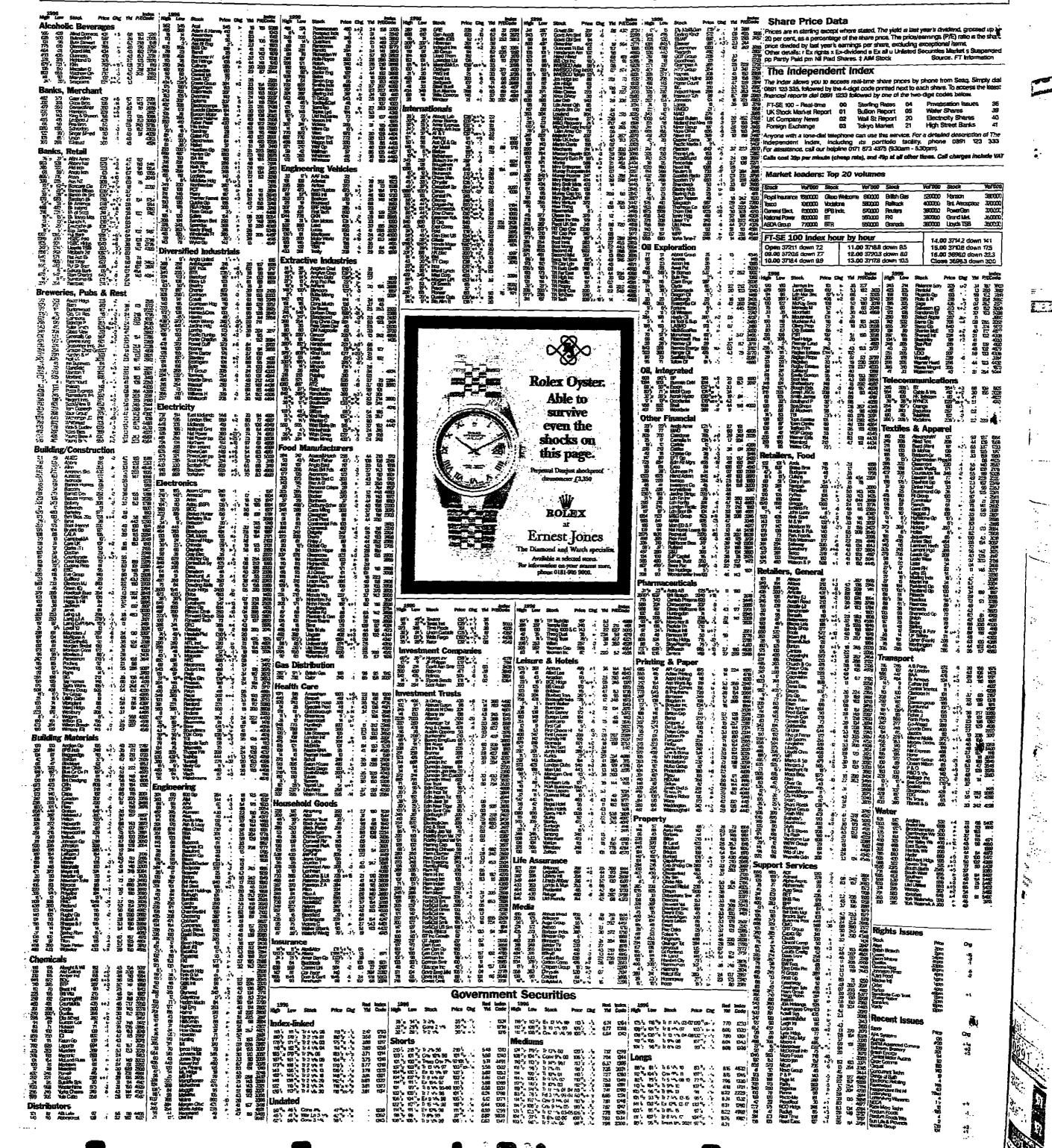
care group growing increasing confident of throwing off the hostile £76m bid from Westminster Healthcare, which closes today, fell 14p to 148p with Westminster off 14p at Ahead of today's expected 295p. First Choice, the holiday

ernment's last privatisation group, fell 7p to 478p. Viewlnn. Ils the American love-in with JD Wetherspoon, the highly-rated pubs chain, coming to an end? A US investment group has been an avid Wetherspoon follower, helping to drive the shares to a peak of L053p. But in recent weeks there has been talk of US disenchantment and although there is no evidence of US selling the shares have fallen; they lost a further 51p

TAKING STOCK

Medeva, bumping along at 238p, should lift profits to £103.5m this year from £79m, say Société Générale Strauss

Analysts Paul Diggle and Alyson Coates are impressed by the acquisition of the US Rochester group. They are looking for profits to move further ahead to £134m next year and regard the shares a



Time for Indurain to make his move

ROBIN NICHOLL with the Tour de France

The uneasy truce is coming to an end in the Tour de France. After allowing the lowly to feed at the table for five days, the "lords" of the pack mount their final challenge to wrest the yellow jersey from the broad shoulders of Bjarne Riis.

Miguel Indurain has 4min 38sec to wipe out if he is to triumph in Paris on Sunday for a record sixth time in as many years.

Riis, 56 seconds clear of second-placed Abraham Olano, sets the scene for today's pre-lude to the Pyrenees. "Perhaps this is the key moment of the clear for his first Tour victory. Tour," the Dane said after a week in the famous colours.

"It certainly will be most important that my form is the best I have had in my career. I just hope that I fare well because I do believe that I can win in Paris."

Yesterday: Stage 15

Brive-La-Gaillarde to Villeneuve-sur-Lot

Indurain remains coolly confident. Not easy in temperatures rising above 30C and especially after his off-day in the Alps. "I am not finished yet," he said, knowing that the final 13 of today's 199 kilometres rise nastily to 1,560 metres on the Hautacam mountain overlooking Lourdes.

It is a slog of eight per cent where the heavyweights such as Riis and Indurain may struggle against the livelier lightweights such as the Russian Yevgeny Berzin. It is the first test of strength. Wednesday's stage into Spain covers five mountains. Yesterday, however, gave new hope to Italy's Massimo Podenzana who raced into Villeneuve-sur-Lot 37 seconds

"I was thinking of retiring but maybe I will give it another year," he said. Podenzana celebrates his 35th birthday a week after the Tour finishes. He only signed for Carrera a week before the Tour started and before

Today: Stage 16

Agen to Laurdes-Hautacam

yesterday's joy his career high-lights were nine days as leader of the 1988 Tour of Italy and, this year, winning the Italian road race title for a third time.

When he sprinted away from his five co-leaders, each invited the others to take up the chase but their dithering left it too late. Once Australia's Neil Stephens began the pursuit their chances looked promising. Then he took a roundabout too fast and finished in a heap with

As Podenzana finished with an average speed of nearly 45kph the chase broke up completely behind him but the six who at one time led by more than nine and a half minutes still had plenty in hand over the

TOUR DE FRANCE 15th Stage (109 miles, Brho-in-Casillande to Villensenve-sear Loft 1. M Podersona (III Carena 3hr 5-firm) 525ec; 2 Guestin Ito Polit +37sec; 3 P Van Patregen (Bel) TWA +504, M Batroli (iii) MG same time; 5 F Lemanchand (Fr) Gan +1:16; 6 N Stephens (Aus) Once +1:41; 7 F Morrossan (Fr) Gan +5:38; 8 F Baistan (D) MS; 9 E Zobal (Gar) Telekom; 10 A Ferrisato 10 Roslotto; 11 D Adodulpanov (Lizbell Refin: 12 I Ceroli (II) Gewiss; 13 G Tamant (Fr) Aubervillers 93; 14 T Gouvenou (Fr) Aubervillers 93; 15 F Simon (Fr) Gan; 16 P Formacian (IV) Seaton; 17 A Tohnil (IIIs) Lotte; 18 A Baronti (IV) Persona; 23 L Cooto (Fr) Agel; 20 J I Messupu (IV) Program; 23 L Cooto (Fr) Agel; 20 J I Messupu (Fr) Agel all same time. Selectad: 44 T Rominger (Swith Mape; 79 C Boardman (EB) Gan; 88 M Induson (Sp) Baresto, all same time. Overall standinger; 18 Ris (Del) Teletom 69th 12min 10sec; 2 A Otano (Sp) Mape; +5Sae; 3 Y Bezin (Rus) Cawas + 1:20; 5 J Ulintoh (Gan) Teletom +2:00; 6 P Lutanberger (Aut) Carres +2:38; 7 R Virenque (Fr) Festin +3:14; 8 M thouram Sp) Barresto +4:38; 9 L Dufaus (Swit) Festine +5:03; 10 F Escarin (Sp) Mape; +5:17; 11 P Ulyamov (Rus) Roslotto +5:55; 12 B Hamburger (Den) TVM +6:38; 13 L Lublanc (Fr) Potil +6:47; 14 Bols (Ger) Teletom +9:11:15 M Ferrander (B) Gan +3:3:20. Milya of the Mountailes: 1 R Virenque (Fr) Festine +5:17; 11 Dignmov (Rus) Roslotto +18:03. Selected: 31 C Boardman (EB) Gan +3:3:20. Milya of the Mountailes: 1 R Virenque (Fr) Festine 224pte; 2 B Ris (Den) Deutsche Potische Teletom 25; 2 E Ris (Den) Deutsche Potische Potische (B) Gan 108; 4 P Abdousancy (Lizbel) Refin 149; 5 J Sijevens (Victil) TVM 121.



Bjarne Riis leads the way in his yellow jersey at the start of yesterday's 15th stage of the Tour de France

Photograph: Laurent Rebours/AP

Q-C Penne-d'Agenais L FINISH

enadian Feotasy evens far, 3. Hong press. 40-1, 5 can. 144, 6. (Denys Bishop Auckland). Tote: £2.60; £1.60, £1.10. DF: £1.10, CSF: £2.48. NR

2.45: 1. OSOMENTAL (F Norton) 4-1; 2. Maid By The Fire 3-1; 3. Plan For Profit 6-4 fax. 7 ram. 11/2, 3. (D Haydn Jones, Pontypridd). Tota: 55.20; 52.20, 52.20. DF: 58.10. CSF: 515.46.
3.15: 1. KINIG CURRAN (T Quiry) 11-1; 2. Marjaana 8-1; 3. Somentin Boy 3-1 fax. 9 ram. 31/2, 11/2,

\$17.90.
3.45: 1. MONTIOY (T Quirn) 8-11 fav; 2. Masetta 10-1; 3. Desert Shot 7-1, 6 ran. Nt, 3/h. (P Cole, Whatcombe). Tota: £1.70; £1.10; £3.10. DF: £7.20. CSP: £7.78.
4.15: 1. HAMMAM 0 Love; 25-1: 2. North Arder 1.18 fav; 3. Vestica Lady 10-1, 11 ran. 1. 2. (£ Alston, Longory). Tota: £24.80; £3.50. £1.30, £1.90. DF: £38.90. CSF: £50.18. Tro: £44.60. NRs: Immesum, Trumpeti.

1 - 4- Log

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Royal Expose (Brighton 4.15) NB: Greatest (Brighton 3.45)

1.45: 1. KING OF SHOW (A Culture) 50-4.45: 1. KING OF SHOW (A Culture) 50-1: 2. Camilosneur 4-1: 3. Ready Teddy 11-4 fav. 11. ran. 174, 317. (R. Allan, Cornhili-on-Tweed). Tota: £22.20; £5.10, £2.30, £1.50, OF: £133.20, CSF. £236.01. Treast: £714.50. Trio: £80.60. Jackpet: Nor won. Pool of £5,082.46 car-red forward to Benerley today. Places £: £19.87. Place 5: £19.07.

FOLKESTONE POLKESTUNE
2.00: 1. SUN OTEROL (Part Eddey) 7-1;
2. Sungars 7-4 fax: 3. Falts O'Noness 9-4, 6 ran. Nr., nic. (M Channon, Upper Lambourn). Tota: 59.10; 53.30, £1.50. DF. £11.00. CSF. £19.38. NR: Flower Hill Lad.
2.30: 1. LIMA (O Urbra) 9-4; 2. Signs And Wonders 16-1; 3. Afficinado seris fav. 2.30; 1 LIMA (O Urune) 9-4; 2. Signa And Wonders 16-1; 3. Afficienced overs lav. 6 ran. ½-2, 2 (L Cuman), Newmarket). Totac 53-50; £1-80, £3.00. DF: £23,40. CSF: £27,42. NR: Bold Oriental.
3.00; 1. PRIDE OF HAYLING (N Varley) 3-1; 2. Seissor Ridge 100-30; 3. Figurer Squadron 16-1, 7 ran, 11-4 tax Robo Magic (4th), 11/2, 31/2. (P Hedger, Chichester). Teter £3,70; £2.00, £2.80. DF: £5.80. CSF: £12.59.
3.30; 1. PESTOL (Put Extery) 5-2, 2. Knafth. Rights 6-5 fav. 3. Bareanov 5-1, 5 ran. Hd. (C Horgan, Wolmgham). Totac £2.40; 1.10, £1.60. DF: £2.50. CSF: £5.70.
4.00; 1. NELLY'S COUSSN (Dare O'Neil)

VL10, £1.80. DF: £2.50. CSF: £5.70.
4.00: 1. NELLY'S COUISM (Dane O'Neil)
12.1: 2. Generationston 7-2: 3. Te Arno 9
1.11 ran. 15-8 for Staniack (4th. ½, 1.
N° Cattagran. Newmarket). Fothe £19.80;
£4.10, £1.10, £3.50. DF: £23.30. CSF:
£550.97. Thu: £51.50. After a stewards' incultur, plasmate inhabitated.

plants unatured.
4.30: 1. HMUTA'S STAR (Dane O'Neil) 31; 2. Again Together 7-2; 3. Crission Rosel
3-1. 5 Fan. 2-1 fav (Don (5th). 243, Int.
10 Marray Smuth, Upper Lambourn). Total
64.60: £1.60, £2.00. DF: £3.60. CSF.
51.287. NR: Poly My Son.
5.00: 1. CANDLE SMOKE (Gaye Harwood).

SAUR: A. CAMBULE SHRUNE RESPENSION 6-1: 2. Creamion Bordervard 10-1: 3. Antio-tal 6th 6-1. 8 ram. 6-4 fav Spring Campaign (6th). 242, 242. (G Harwood, Puborough). Total ET JOL ES 70, ES 10. DF 270.00. CSP. ESS.72.

E52.72. Placepot: £38.10. Quadpot: £7.20. Place 6: £74.17. Place 5: £42.03.

Norman Williamson and Walter Swinburn are on the way back to the track after injuries. Williamson, who has had an operation on a twice-dislocated shoulder, resumes at Killarney tonight. Swinburn, out since suffering broken ribs and shoulder and bruising lungs in a fall at Sha Tin in February, has reapplied for his riding licence and expects to resume soon.

Evening results, page 23



3.30 Double-J

STALLS: Inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for 5f & 7f 100yds.

200 Mets Baby

2.30 Oberons Boy

3.00 Green Barries

■ LEADING TEAINERS WITH EUNNERS: M Johnston — 21 winners from 107 runners gives a success ratio of 19.5% and a profit to a 51 level state of 55.58; Mrs J Ramsden — 13 winners, 35 runners, 15.1%, 523.04; E Wishtaber — 10 winners, 36 runners, 11.6%, -523.88; L Camezal — 8 winners, 22 runners, 35.4%, +53.33. B LEADING JOCKETS: K Durley — 48 winners, 248 rides, 19.4%, -566.92; W Corson — 23 winners, 75 rides, 30.7%, +55.80; K Fallon — 20 winners, 172 rides, 11.6%, -\$40.82; J Westver — 19 winners, 154 rides, 14.2%, -528.11. BLINKERED FOR THE FIRST TIME: Totally Different (viscos) (2.00); Obserus Boy

(2.30). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: None.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: None.

LONG-DETLANCE EUNNERS: Fragms Spring (4.00) has been sent 249 miles by Lady Herries from Augmentug Park. West Susser; Teen Jay (4.00) sem 225 miles by B Liewellyn from Bargoed, Mid Glamorgan.

| 2 | 200 | added 3YO 1m 100yds Penaity Value £2,997 |
|-----|---------|---|
| 1 | | RESPECTING (12) (Mick Vernon) Denys Smith 9 7 |
| 2 | 35-0002 | GULF OF SIAM (20) (I Harson) Was S Hall 9 2 |
| 3 | | LUCKY BEA (8) (D) (See Health Ltd) M W Essterby 9 2 |
| 4 | | MELS SARY (12) (987) (John Roberts (Makefeld)) J.L. Syry 8 12 |
| 5 | 000033 | BORN A LADY (LLL) (Mas P.A. Barratt) S.R. Bowaing S. 7 |
| 6 | | AMBIGATION (24) (E.P. Jameson) K. Mickelide B. 6 |
| 7 | 0-00056 | PARTYRANIC BALL (27) (Newit and Co Ltd) T Wasson 8 4 |
| l e | 0-46103 | CONTRACT SERDEE (15) (0) (Receptess Clair Spans Lodge) C Thornton 8 4 6 Mills (7) 1 |
| 9 | 040000 | FALCON'S FLAME (USA) (11) (Coln Webser) Mis J Ramson 84 |
| 幼 | 000-4 | FRIELY SURE (17) (Hotoyweight Record) N Berry B 4 |
| 11 | 000-00 | COTTAGE PRINCE (B) (BP) Piles Key Thomasy J Quinn 7 12 |
| 12 | 00-00 | TOTALLY DIFFERENT (10) (T H Monte) & Charge 7 10 |
| 13 | | PISIOSTAR (22) IC Grahem) M Dods 7 10 Darren Modett 7 B |
| 14 | 000-0 | SIZZILING SERENJOE (20) (Neil Berrand) J A Harris 7 10 |
| 15 | 00-000 | YOURGE BLUE (50) (Michael V Beth) / Bethel 7 10 |

-15 ancured -Minimum weight: 7st 10th, True handcap weights: Totally Utilierent 7st 2th, Fisiossar 7st 2th, Stolling Ser-enade 7st, Kudos Blue Ost 12th. SETTING 9-2 Main Easy, 5-1 Golf Of Sinn, Lucky Ben, 5-1 Faicon's Flame, 7-1 Contract Bridge, 10-1 Rem A Lady, Respecting, 12-1 others

- 15 declares -

1985: Londo Lee 3 9 0 H K Yim 10-1 Uohn Benyl 13 ala

FORM GUIDE

So far, Falcon's Flame has, been found warning in all his four handicaps, but he's been dropped 5th since the first of them, in which he was a staying-on fourth to Macrobar (two wire since) at Musselburgh (Lm). As the stable is having such a good season, it's a bit surprising that Lyinda Ramsdon (Int). As the stable is having such a good season, it's a bit surprising that Lyinda Ramsdon out and means that Falcon's Flame nusbrt be written off, Much more exposed but perhaps a safter option is LUCKY BEA, like Falcon's Flame from a year going well this year and a fair third to the Luce Cumani-trained Chinensis at Ripon fact time. Les Eyes is another trainer enjoying a rewarding 1996 and his consistent gelding, Make Baby, shouldn't be far away, especially with Mart. Henry an encouraging choice of inder. Gulff Of Siam was bestlen 10 tengins when Lucky Bea won at Newcastle in May but he's 8th better off and his recent second to Eashtm at Redear suggests he'll be a mugler opportent today. Contened Bridge could like this track as her war was over the assing male at Carhae and Sie's been tried over longer distances in hos subsequent races. Another Bly that can make her presence felt is Born A Lady, placed in hig fields on her last buo starts and diden by Jason Edmunds, who won an apprentic handlesp on sestimate Cheadel Hall at Ripon back in April. Cottage Prince was test of 13 behind Mattoun Classic at Musselburgh last week but the fact that he was belied from 10-1 to 4-1 joint-taxourie suggests he didn't give his true transfer the despise his

| | 2.30 | WHERLPOOL CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS E) £4,500 added 3YO 7f 100yds Penalty Value £3,163 |
|----------|-----------|--|
| 1. | 2464 (0) | operative any more for figures ? Whitein B Meeter 9.5 |
| [] | سستد | INSIDEOUT (260) U D Bydre) F Wason 8 9 J Fortune 3 |
| 3 | | Balling & V |
| 13 | 60-0520 | UNICLE GEORGE (13) (I A Fullet) M Tomplets 8 9 Problems 8 V |
| 1.4 | AAAAAA | CONTROL TACT (1921) 1/11 if and N Nation P Kalendy A.S., |
| l 4 | 200000 | CHICAGO NO CHILLENGE VINIGO CI |
| 5 | 46.3505 | APARTMENTS ABROAD (18) (K.W.) Michallel K.Michalle 81 Lours 8 Y |
| - | | CLENCKER CLUB (10) (Base Yeardley Congress) Ltd) M Johnston 80 |
| 6 | ALC: U | Carried the last than the same of the same |
| 7 | 00000-000 | NCA BIRD (22) (Stephen Walfor) TWAIF 7 12F Lyoch (3) 2 |
| 1: | ~~~ | MRSS MAPULSE (348) (J Rose) Mas J Bover 7 12 J Quina 4 |
| 8 | 3345 | MOS MI VILLE (APRIL) (PROS) APRIL 1 |

BETTING: 7-4 Oberons Bor, 3-1 Uncle George, 9-2 Clincher Clain, 7-1 Apartments Abroad, 10-1 Crystal Fest, Inca Bird, Philipse, 14-1 others 1996: Specol K 3 8 4 G Hard 13-8 & Waymen) 6 am

Nemer less than first in the ultin-compitive Bitannia Handicap at Royal Ascat, and again in Concer Un's race at Sandown 10 days ago, Obserions Borr probably soft capable of the decent form he showed at two – hence his presence in this claimer with bitckers fitted. The lites of Joint Venture and Tinker's Surprise (both two-year-olds) won when Brian Meehan tried them in blinkers for the first twite and, atthough Obseros Boy giets away 1000 or more, he'll go down as disappointing if he can't make the most of the dop in class. Clinicher Clab has also strugged in handicaps above running Some Horse to a nech in a 17-runner nursery at Donesster less themes Boy, she should spine much more prominerly in this claimer and, at a difference of 19th, lodes more capable than most of making a race of it. One problem maght be the rinp, as Cancher Clab has done at of her range over five and so funding. Under Georgie does have the recessary scarry and was giring the warmer, Princess Parnigaddy, plenty of weight when second in a Newerschat claimer two races ago. He could be the pick of the others but would be better of with Operors Boy and Chincher Club in a handicap. FORM GDIDE

3.00 COMET HANDICAP (CLASS C) £7,700 added 3YO 7f 100yds

| ם ו | | Penary value 25,248 |
|-----|---------------|---|
| 11 | 052571 | CONTRACTOR OF PARTIES AND A MARCHET A TALLECT S |
| 15 | 430332 | NEW ON THE BOOK (1954) (27) Staff: Arcast & Major V 57,79 36 |
| 13 | 5-66043 | KELINE (27) (Shalife Mohammata L Conser 9.6 K Danley 7 |
| Ā | 1.33061 | MANDOTYE (25) [7] Wishory Monorary G District 91 Daile Gibeon 6 |
| 5 | 03,0480 | SNRO (17) SNs NA Coptos C Smar & 17 |
| ī . | 3,55013 | MERRY CUTTONN (DB) (D) (ME) Stated (ME) N (Dally at 812 G Carter 2 |
| 7 | 625344 | 1023MENA (00) (Passel Bookly) W East 8?Martin Dayer (5) 5 |
| i ' | | -7 declare4- |
| ₽EI | TENS: 7-2 | Microso Hali Batal, 4:1 Street Payriot, 3-2 Kipine, Jerry Cotrona. 5-1 Mybodys. N.Z |
| | | |

Indoora, 7-1 Sedio 1989: Managate 3 8 12 D R McCate 20-1 (M Baday ? as:

The second secon

First time out this season, MYBOTYE faced an impossible task, trying to beat Farhana when receiving only 2b; then he was 8tb out of the handcap when third to Coyote Bluff over course and distance. Tried over a mile in the hot race won by Massile at York, and then over six against older horses at Portisfract, Mykoyte confirmed his liding for this tip when winning a little handicap at Redcar and he comes across as the sort that dioesn't know how to ange a title handicap at Redcar and he comes across as the sort that doesn't know how to nun a bad race. Mybodye might just upset those from bigger yards, including Menoo Hail Batal and Green Bernies. Both have come up against the progressive Dancing Image re-cently — Menoo Hail Batal going down a neck at Roon when conceding 6bb, whereas Green Bernies best Dancing Image a neck at Sandown, but he was giving only 3th to lan Balding runner. There might not be much in it. Before Ripon, Menoo Hail Batal had finished a good third to Poter Prince at Epsom and there's definitely a decent herdicap to be won with him. Killylae is held by Menoo Hail Batal on Ripon and Epsom running but the issue might not be that simple with Luca Cumani's horses going well at present. Another Newmarket horse to consider is Jerry Cutrona, who best Green Barries a decisive two and a half lengths over to consider is Jerry Cutrona, who best Green Barries a decisive two and a half lengths over throngs at Yarmouth on 5 June. Jerry Cutrona is only 1th worse off with Green Batnes and he defect at Newmarket might be worth overfooting as that race came only three days.

| | er Yannou | |
|---|-----------|---|
| | 3.30 | ORANGE MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2YO 5F Penalty Value £3,059 |
| 1 | | DOUBLE J (10) (D In Armenge) K McAulife 8 6 |
| 2 | 633325 | MUUDVA (20) (J D Gerham) R Hollinsheed 8.6F Lynch (3) 7 |
| 3 | 222622 | SWINO (15) Semination Transport Ltd) P Sians 8 6 |
| 4 | 25 | SMISS COAST (18) (Bernard Hattgavay) Mrs J Ramsden 8 8 |
| 5 | | JUNCY TING (Martin Wickens) P Hastam 8.3 |

1985: Annaberg 2 8 4 K Fallon 5-2 (Mrs.) Ramssien) 10 ran

FORM SURDS

Double-1, Majors and Swine have done enough to show that they can win a race of this son but SWISS COAST has more room for improvement then all three and Lynda Ramsden won last year's race with Annaberg, Swiss Coast may have been a bit disapporting at Newcastle last time but the winner was Rich Ground, who went on to win the July Stakes in Newmarket. Swiss Coast obvously stays further then this because he was beaten a head by Deshing Rockstille first time out over six furiongs at Cariste, but he was in from over a furiong from home there so this stiff five might suit him. Behind Swiss Coast at Carliste were a subsequent maden winner and two who went on so win nurseenes. All Avec Coastosant represents the Rich Ground stable but James Bethelfs two-year-olds often need their first run. Jakey Ting is from a yeard having a quiet season so pick of the newcomers could be Coastosat Disc, but she'll be doing well to bear the four with so much apperience to draw upon.

Selections: SWISS COAST

| _ | | |
|----|---------|---|
| 4 | 1.00 | SONY HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m 35yds Penalty Value £3,436 |
| :- | | |
| 1 | | PRACILE SPRING (15) (ALA: See Lady Hernes 4 9 10 |
| 2 | 4-00002 | TEEN JAY (3) (Serpe) Associated 8 Develon 695 |
| 3 | | HERLENNER (101) DAIS P GEbbon) W Hages 6 9 3 |
| | 25000 | ATHERITON GREEK (10) (Athenon and Green) J Glover 6 & 13M Shoth 2 |
| 4 | G200-22 | Vierking Gersi (m) (straint and Casal) 1 days, o d 12 we see 7 |
| 5 | 23315-5 | BOURDONNER (253) (Correllus Lysepha) M Hammond 4 8 12 |
| 8 | 3-04464 | VABA PROVICE (15) (CD) (A C Product N Tolder 9 8 10 Fortune 9 |
| ž | 235000- | ALL ON (305) (N Heitherton) J Hiernerton 5 8 3 Lowe ? |
| ġ | SALASA | LONGCROFT (35) Visition Stud Ltd; K Hogg 4 8 2 |
| = | | |
| 9 | 107736 | ROYAL CIRCUS (11) (P.W. Hest) P.Webber 7.8.1M Henry (3) 10 |
| 10 | 405406 | TANAYOR GET. (11) (Mrs.) Hughesi R Hollansheed 4.8.1 |
| ũ | | ISLAND CAS NOE (10) (Don Ennos Incess) Don Ennos Incess 4 7 10Xin Tighter 2 |
| - | ****** | |

Minimum weight: 7st 10th. The handcap weight: Mand Cascade 7st 2th. BETTRE: 4-1 Hullbeat, 6-1 / therton Green, Progre Spring, 7-1 Longstoft, Box Phiscs, 10-1 others 1985: Chelotak 7 8 2 A Daly 7-1 (S Don't 7 san

In the course, 10-1 cleans, 18 2 A Daly 7-1 (S Dowl 7 ran

A winner last July for Barry Hulk, Prague Spring flash T chicked so far for Lody Herries. Stepping up to two miles might do the trick, but one horse that has alyesdy benefited from a change of stable, at least when it comes to hundling, is BOURDONNER, who made all for an easy win at Perth last month and then ran well at Market Rasen. Whether he can produce the goods back on the Flat is another matter (Royal Circus looks a more likely frontnumer here), but Boundonner w.n. over a mile and as on fast gound in Ireland so to today's conditions should such him. Tees July was second to Great Orabion over this trip at Chester on Saturday and will be a tough coponier provided this doesn't come too soon, while Rullbank is form a small yard that has been getting as share of winners recently and he's not out of it. Wherever Hutben't finishes, Atberton Green shouldn't be far away as only a length separated the two when they were placed behand French by here 10 days ago. This is a new trip for All On as far as Flat racing is concerned but she was winning at up to two-anda-hatf miles over hundles in the spring and could go well back on the Flat with only Scalin to carry. Vain Prince was soundly beaten at Musectourgh last time but shouldn't be nated out. He isn't badly hendicapped, hes conditions in his tavour and Nigel Tinider is having his best season for some time.

| 4.30 TOSHBA HANDICAP (CLASS F) £4,500 added 5f Penalty Value £3,436 |
|---|
| 1. 4-126-5. PAGEBOY (7) f08 d.ord Scaratelel P Hestern 7 10 0 |
| 2 060043 NED'S BONANZA (10) (CD) (BF) (Ned Jones) M Dosts 7 9 11A Clark 20 |
| 3 012505 AQUADO (10) (CD) (K Nichole) S R Bowne 7 9 11 Quine 1 B |
| 4 500002 JUST DISSIDENT (10) Birs C A Hodgetts) R Whitzler 4 9 9 |
| 5 332000 TENOR (57) (D) (Geoliney Thompson) D Nicholis 5 9 9 |
| 6 050524 SOUND THE TRUMPST (18) (D) (R C Spicer R Spicer 4 9 8 |
| 7 500556 GAZANULI (19) (D) (R F F Meson) P Evers 3 9 8 |
| 8 005105 NVISILATE (10) (D) (David Kay Riverng M Warre 7 9 6 K Fellon 2 |
| 9 000123 DOMENELLE (10) (CD) (BF) (Sendmoor Teddies Co Ltd) T Easterby 4 9 5 |
| 10 (2561-61 QUEEKS CHECK (66) (D) (N Cooper) Lines J Craze 3 9 3 |
| |
| |
| 12 5302-50 TIME TO FLY (33) [Mee N A Herroti B Harray 3 9 2 |
| 13 3635-05 COOLONEN FLASH (34) (D) (Brain McSweenry) J.L. Eyre 5 8 13 |
| 14 0013-05 CHRISTIAN FLIGHT (12) (Deed G to Holland) S Colongs 7 8 12 |
| 15 000035 PMP EXPRESS (29) (D) (G.E. Severson) G.N. Moore 3 & 12 |
| 16 20-2000 Mail-ARBank (22) IC Raine) & Obsorid 8 8 8 |
| 17 000060 PRST OPTION (10) (CD) (Re Omega Racing Club): R Bastiman 6.8 6 |
| 13 0-06524 ROTHERGELD PARK (22) (D) (David) Thompson C Smith 4-8.5 |
| 19 000020 BRINGSTON KRISTY (34) U Starbuck C Smith 481long Wands (7) 5 V |
| 20 00000 PRIME PROPERTY (21) (Ann Sect. & Co.; H. W. Esserby + 8.0. Hertin Dayer (5) 7.8 |
| |
| -20 declared - |
| BETTRIE: 7-1 lanighter, 8-1 Neal's Bonzanza, 10-1 Prime Property, Aquado, RotherSeki Park, Queens |

1995; Mas Sears 6 8 7 Max Greenes 9-1 (0 Meta2s) 17 (20)

FORM CLIEDE The last per winners of this race have been drawn 16 of 17 and 12 of 13, diustraing how height a high draw can be over five furlough here. With that in mend, Ned's Bonanza must be on the shortlist. He's in stall 20 and fursted in from of Pullium, lawigitate and First. be on the promise. He's in gast 20 and impared in hord of Palaum, takepains and have Option in the Cartisle race won by Time To Tango, DOMINELLE isn't bady off in stall 14 and car come out better than Jost Disablent (drawn 3), who best her a length and a half when Bolsho won here 10 days ago. Domanelle's neck win from Rotherfield Park (3) better off) on her last visit confirms her being for a testing five futiongs on fast ground; she won tarte at Cartisle last summer. Pageboy fan a captier at Newmarket last Tursday, gering a within a length and a half of Shadow Luy on his first run in dimost sex months. The big senior won? prepassion here has been more to first run in dimost sex months. The big weight won't necessarily best him as he's won under 10st6b in the post but Pogebo, books where wont necessary lear names are swent when Lucion in the past our representations of the wonth against it from seet four. Even worse of is Aquado (one), drain 9 of 12 when he wonth speak provide notices and in 1993. Sound the Transpet track a possibility after two sound officials in even began feets over an interrigant transcent and Goodwood, but it's difficult to be confident about Googlijdo making the most of being drain 19. She's finding making the most of being drain 19. She's finding in the official to win races this year.

Selection: 100 VII.5116

Cigar ready to roll on to California

Smoking is little short of a criminal offence in the United States these days, but when it comes to Cigar, they are prepared to make an exception. It is not just headline writers who have taken to the horse who has burned and glowed his way through American racing for more than 12 months, and after his record-equalling 16th straight win at Artington on Sat-urday, Cigar's public-approval rating has reached a level which any politician would sell their grandmother to achieve.

"The race-track at Arlington, you just couldn't get another person in there," Tim Jones, assistant to Cigar's trainer. Bill Mott, said yesterday. "It was a huge crowd, the sort you get on Kentucky Derby day but other he's got a lot of heart. We're just

21 August, but there is no in-

tention to retire the filly after

her flop when odds-on for the

Irish Oaks on Sunday. Ru-

mours reported by John Mc-

Cririck on Channel 4 on

Saturday suggested that the

Oaks winner would be retired

after Sunday's race.

than that is pretty unusual." Not really lucky to be around him." so unusual, though, when Cigfor his previous race in Massachusetts sold out in two hours. It will be a similar story at Del

Mar on 10 August, when Cigar attempts to claim outright the record for the longest winning streak in the Grade One Pacific Classic. Del Mar is in Cali-fornia, while Cigar is stabled several time-zones away at Belmont Park, New York, but an indifference to travelling is just one of the qualities which make at Woodbine in November, he him such an exceptional horse. "We went out there twice last

different tracks," Jones said, a total which of course includes Nad Al Sheba in Dubai, where Cigar won the Dubai World Cup, the richest race on Earth. "I really don't know what makes him so special, though of course

really know why she ran disap-

pointingly, but it could have

been the ground - this was her third race on fast ground.

at all been vindicated in what he

said. He did not consult with the

trainer, the owner or with my-

"I don't think McCririck has

Lady Carla will have her next outing in the Yorkshire Oaks on er Wafic Said, said: "We don't

Nothing is taken for granted, ar is racing - the 28,000 tickets but thoughts at Mott's yard are already turning to the autumn of Cigar's six-year-old season. "There's two spots he can go after Del Mar, the Jockey Club Gold Cup or the Woodward Stakes, which are both here at Belmont. Last year he won both, though I'm not sure we'd do that again." The ultimate prize remains a second success in the Breeders' Cup Classic,

though if and when Cigar arrives

will have little still to prove. There will be British horses year, and in all he's won at nine banking some serious air miles in November too, if the efforts of the Victoria Racing Club to attract European runners to the Melbourne Cup prove successful. Celeric, Double Eclipse, Luso and Court Of Honour are those most likely to head south from Britain, while Vintage Crop, winner of the Flemington Carla heads for Yorkshire

el from Ireland once again. Yesterday, Les Benton, general manager of the VRC, ap-pealed to the competitive and patriotic instincts of trainers to persuade them to try their luck in the £1.1m race. "I wouldn't like to think the English have not got the bottle to take on the Australians on their own ground. Benton said. "If they think they have the best horses they should

race in 1993, is expected to trav-

BRIGHTON

2.15 Song Mist (nb) 2.45 Spondulicks 3.15 Diamond Beach 3.45 Tomal 4.15 Royal Expose 4.45 Gentle Irony

Tim Bulwer-Long, racing edyet."

GOING: Firm.

STALLS: Inside, except 1 m2f & 1m4f outside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for 5f to 8f.

Lot-hand, U-staped course, undulating and sharp.

Course is E of town. Follow signposts from town centre. Brighton station 1m (last service from London, Victoria). ADMISSION:

Cash \$12 (accompanied under-16s free); Tettersalls \$8; Silver Ring \$1/10 for cert.

\$4 (ine \$4 per car). SIS RECENT

BLINEERED FIRST TIME: Grovelith Fiyer (2.45), Analt-Ka (3.15). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Silver Harrow (3.45) & Mislemann (4.45) have been sent 208 miles by A Newcombe from

2.15 EBF KEMP TOWN MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £4,750 added 240 6f O AMN SEWEN (19) R Hannon 9 0 Dame O'Nelli (3) 3 LGS TEAR WHITE (43) T Mils 9 0 Mark Lyach 4 B BEACONSCUT D Louis & 9 CHARMANS DAUGHTER P Cox 89

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2.45 STEINE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,450 added 270 7f

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CLASS D) £5,100 added 1m

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FRIEND-JAMES MEMORIAL LIMITED

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THE OPEN: South African legend back at scene of controversial victory. Tim Glover reports

The paradox that is Gary Player

hen Gary Player won the Open Champi-Lytham in 1974 he did so by a handsome margin but amid ugly rumours. That's the thing about Player. No shades of grey, just black or white. Either he is the greatest golfer and one of the finest sportsmen to emerge from South Africa or he's a diminutive, holier than thou, self-opinionated pain in the neck.

"There's only one thing I don't like about my job," Play-er once said. "In golf there is tremendous jealousy. I find that just unbelievable. I heard a pro say 'If Arnold Palmer died I wouldn't spit on his grave'." As one of the Big Three, along with Palmer and Jack Nicklaus. Player has not escaped the sniping. The allegation of Lytham 74 is that the ball he played at the penultimate hole in the final round was not the one he had hit into the rough.

There are certain things that are possible and certain things that are impossible." Player said. "First of all they had the TV cameras on during the whole incident. For anybody to say that Rabbit [his caddie Rab-bit Dyer] dropped a ball is dreaming. I would put my life on the fact that he wouldn't do something like that. It's impossible. The grass was so thick." Player was six strokes ahead.

In his book To Be The Best, he said: "As we walked towards the green I wondered whether we would ever find the ball. The first thing I did was to ask an official to put the watch on me to observe the five-minute rule. I was in full view of the cameras. Imagine winning the Open and then somebody claiming I'd gone seven seconds over my allotted time. It is a unique aspect of golf that anybody anywhere who spots a rules infringement during play can report it and have official action taken. It was a frantic search in which I even got down on my hands and knees looking for the ball. I asked everybody around me to join in the hunt but it still seemed like a hopeless task. There was barely a minute of time left when a marshal found

five. There are stories, surely apocryphal, that his original ball was subsequently found in green and his ball finished against the wall of the clubhouse. It was decided the building was an integral part of the course and he was not entitled to a free drop. He played left-handed with the back of his putter, put the ball 10 feet short of the hole, took two putts and won by four strokes.



Photograph: Peter Dazelev

It was his third and last victory in the Open although his outstanding career was still dogged by controversy. In a skins game in Arizona in 1983 Tom Watson accused him of cheating by moving a growing leaf from behind his ball. "I was staggered," Player wrote later. "Breaking the rules is, after all the most heinous charge to be laid against any golfer. When it is aimed at a champion the repercussions can be monumental. It was a truly sorry affair in which the accusation was Player escaped with a bogey not made until I had left the course and the game was over. The correct procedure would have been to raise the matter the rough and that it is now sit- at the time. I was astonished ting in a safe. At the final hole that Tom did not adopt the corhit his approach through the rect procedure. I think what he did to me that day will haunt

him for the rest of his life." Whether taking on Player on the course or off it you had better be prepared for an almighty scrap. The South African pointed out that Watson had won two majors, the Masters and the Open in 1977, using clubs that did not con-

form. "I would hate to have won major championships knowing I had used illegally grooved clubs." Player said. He now describes his relationship with Watson as "very polite".

What was never in doubt was Player's fierce competitiveness. "His accomplish-

driving range. "I had to give my boss 50 cents and I kept 50. That's how I saved money to go overseas. Player was a pocket-sized pi-

lessons at a dollar a time on a And he muscled in on the Big

oneer who was fortified by his belief in God. A fitness fanat-

Breaking the rules is the most heinous charge. I think what Tom Watson did to me that day will haunt him for the rest of his life'

achievements of any person game," Palmer said. "The obstacles that he overcame in the formative years of his career are what made his great success so remarkable and admirable." Player was born in Johannesburg in 1935, the son of a gold miner. His mother died when he was eight. He began his pro-career by giving

ments in golf and life rival the gymnasium. The Little Big Man in black became the first who has ever played the foreign-born winner of the Masters: the first non-American to top the money list on the US Tour: the first and only player to win the Open in three different decades and one of only four men to achieve the Grand Slam. And he did it against the odds. Fly-ing from South Africa would mean a 90-hour round trip.

make it the Big Three, winning nine majors and more than 150 events throughout the world. And sometimes he did it with the protection of armed police as civil rights activists in America made him a target for antiapartheid protests. On the subject of apartheid, Player has seen the light. "I went on record in 1965 avowing, 'I am of the South Africa of Verwoerd and apartheid'. My views began to change, particularly as I travelled around the world. The injustice was so obvious and the implications quite chilling. I am now quite convinced that I have played a significant role in trying to eradicate apartheid. It was a

Two, Palmer and Nicklaus, to

If there is one man who is compared to Player as the next great white hunter from South Africa it is Emie Els. But while Player is a clean liver (no drinking, no smoking) with the cleanest of livers, Els likes deadline. He will play his last nothing better than to share a tournament in the Open at St few beers with his caddie. Andrews in the year 2000.

Where it is valid to mention Player and Els in the same breath is in wondering whether the tall one can win as many majors. "Like Gary says, can we compare wallets?" Els said. "In a way it's nice but I don't want to hear it. We're totally different people with totally different attitudes. Gary always had to work his way around and fight it out. I try to enjoy the game at least. Ive been lucky. I think our generation is going to be OK. All the doors

made another fortune on the US Seniors Tour and who has developed extensive business interests, is back at Royal Lytham. In 1974 he generally used a one-iron off the tee. Now he will probably use a Black Knight titanium driver which is made by one of his companies. Despite the selfdiscipline and the punishing daily routine of exercises, the long player has set himself a

At the age of 60, Player, who

Italians lose patience with Ferrari

Motor racing

DERICK ALLSOP

Seventeen years of hurt and still no sign of an end to it all. In-deed, these past few weeks have plunged motor racing's most famous, fabled and revered team, Michael Schumacher and all, to new depths

Schumacher's magnificent win in the rain in Spain might as well be 17 years ago. Ferrari's next drivers' title looks no nearer. Their catastrophe count extended to three consecutive races in Sunday's British Grand Prix. Schumacher and Eddie Irvine mustering eight laps beween them before both cars retired. Next stop Germany, Schumacher's home race, and even for Ferrari the pressure can rarely have been more intense.

Before the garage shutters came down on their latest embarrassment, all Italy was wailing its outrage. Italian television did not bother showing the podium ceremony at Silverstone, preferring to open an in-quiry into the shambles.

The Italian press was scathing. "Poor Ferrari, red only from shame," the Rome newspaper Il Messaggero said in a front page headline. This mythical car, which has made motor racing history, seems to have become a circus car, exploding in the hands of clowns," Italy's largest selling sports daily. La Gazzetta dello Sport, said.

Every time Ferrari goes up

in smoke, every banal error that leaves you speechless, means that a piece of Italy, which we were once proud of, dies," it

La Stampa, owned by the Agnelli family who control Ferrari, told its readers: "The trouble for Ferrari is that the public are fed up with waiting. The last world championship of Judy Scheckter in 1979 is a fading memo-

Many have called for the head of Jean Todt, the team director, and he says he would. have to accept any decision to remove him, just as he accepts the criticism. "National pas-sion in Italy is very strong," the Frenchman said. "Being in charge of the team I have been criticised and I have to answer my responsibility.

The more pragmatic suggest Ferrari have no one better to replace Todt, but then pragmatism has never been Maranello's strongest suit. Emotional forces can inspire, yet too often undermine.

The boss of another team looked on in amusement at empire, Gianni Amelli, around the pits, pursued by hordes of photographers and camera

"Look at it. Crazy." the neighbouring boss said. "It puts too much pressure on everyone in the team and now they cannot work as they should. I'm

pleased to see it. It helps us." A member of the Ferrari team commented some hours after the French Grand Prix. where they managed five laps. and Williams finished the race first and second: You see us. we are still packing our trucks and yet Williams have everything away. They're organised.

We're not."

It is a generally held belief that Ferrari have funds way in. excess of other teams but that. through mismanagement and a lack of organisation, they squander a potential advantage. Todt rejects that claim.

He said: "It makes me angry when I bear Ferrari has the higgest budget. It is completely wrong. Unlike the other teams, we built our own engine. If you calculate the investment put in by other engine manufacturers and their teams you would see it differently.

"Anyway, money cannot buy everything straight away. We have improved and it takes time. People expect too much too quickly, and that brings the biggest pressure. The mistakes are ours, the responsibility ours. We have to explain failures and say more than I would prefer, but that is part of being Ferrari. What I do say is we have to be more positive."

Ferrari have explained the series of component failures yet cannot explain why the apparent reliability recorded in testing has not of late, been repeated in the races.

Schumacher has constrained his feelings and continued to convey the message that the team will get there in the end. He has already hinted he is prepared to commit himself beyond his two-year contract and perhaps finish his career at Ferrari.

He has a get-out clause in his agreement, which he could exercise at the end of this season. but where could he go? Williams could not afford his \$25m (£16.5m) a year asking price the last time they talked. He left Benetton for a new challenge, as well as that enormous salary, and McLaren still do not look an attractive enough proposition.

Speculation that Hill might change teams was, of course, part of the spiralling frenzy at the British Grand Prix. However his boss, Frank Williams, said he Silverstone as Ferrari's presi- expected to start negotiations dent. Luca di Montezemolo. aimed at agreeing a new conushered the patriarch of the Fiat tract with Hill for next year.



HAVE A HEART - SEND A PICTURE

The Heart of Britain Book, on sale in October 1996, will feature the 300 best photographs sent in by people like you. Just take your pictures and send the best to us. Sporty or lazy, upbeat or quaint - it's up to you. There are nine sections in

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| lagree to the terms and conditions detail | led below: |
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SO GET OUT THERE AND SNAP THE WINNER!

Enjoy makes most of ideal conditions

Salling STUART ALEXANDER

reports from Cork

For some, there was a little too much bounty for the opening of Cork Week as David Rowley's Sigma 33 was dismasted and John Crotty's One Design, the 1720, was badly holed in a collision with a Melges 24. But for most of the record 485 craft the conditions were ideal.

Sensibly, both the Sigma 33s and 38s have attached their UK national championships to the biggest gathering in the British Isles outside Cowes Week. The 38s staved ashore vesterday following an all night race, so all eves were on their smaller brethren as Scotland's lan Nicolson added a win in the second race to the third place he scored on Sunday. A sixth place by the Clyde-based Nicolson in the second race of the day kept him the lead overnight.

The 72-boat fleet of 33s brings together a mixed bag of talent, some of which found the choppy conditions and 15 to 16 knot casterly a bit of a handful. After a sluggish start in which

Paddy O'Brien's Sorcery, an 82footer of some 13 years, had to push her way through a melee of smaller boats, she settled into a long stride and powered her way round a 31-mile course. Crossing the line first, how-

ever, was not enough for Sorcery to save time on handicap. Instead the prize went to Barney Isherwood and David Taylor in the J120 Enjoy. The Belfast Lough pair had almost half an hour when times were corrected over the secondplaced Roy Dickson's Cracklin' Rosie. The next three places all went to Bashford-Howison 41s: Jocelyn Waller's Silk 2: Nigel Bramwell's Hawk; and Colm Barrington's Surfin' Shoes.

Something went twang and I was out of control

First of all I want to thank all the fans who gave me such tremendous support and encouragement over the weekend. I wanted to win for them and when I achieved pole position I was hoping so much that I might be on the podium. I was as surprised as anyone when something went wrong with the front wheel and sent me spinning into the gravel and out of the British Grand

The weekend was going so well. The lans were great and one of my personal heroes. Nick Faldo, popped by to say hello on the Friday before the race. The Labour leader, Tony Blair, and his family also visited on Sunday morning and while I gave him a quick spin around the circuit he jokingly kept asking me to turn left! We were also visited by Will Carling and the world superbike champion Carl Fogarty. It's great for everyone on the team when other sporting people visit us on circuit.

A had start put me in fifth place at the beginning of the race. The first few seconds of the race had actually been fine as I made a good getaway. Then the engine hogged down and I gave it too many revs, which resulted in too much wheelspin. My world seemed to stand still as I was immediately engulfed by cars on both sides and dropped to lifth place. But all was not lost. I had enough fuel on board to switch to a one-stop strategy, which would be more suitable, particularly as I was now stuck behind Mika Hakkinen's McLaren and my team-mate. Jacques Villeneuve, was streaking into the lead.

With Jacques being my closest championship challenger I was more interested in my progress relative to him. I could get close to the McLaren at a couple of corners, but not close enough on the straights. There was one opportunity to get by when a back-marker came into the equation, but Mika had covered every possibility. All he had to do was stay on line in order to make it impossible for me to get through. It be-



particularly as Hakkinen was due to stop twice.

Looking back on it now, I could easily

have beaten Hakkinen and the Benettons through my one-stop tactic, but I would have needed a bit of good fortune in order to get ahead of Jacques. It would have been interesting, none the less, because once I had a clear road I would have put the hammer down and really pushed hard. At least the crowd would have had something to

get excited about.

Even if I had made the best start of my career, and led the race. I would not have reached the finish. About four laps before I actually had the failure, the car felt strange. I monitored the situation more closely and the car continued to feel odd. I got on the radio and said there is something wrong: the reply was that they would take a look when I made my pit stop, which was due in a couple of laps. Less than half a lap later. I was left in absolutely no doubt that I was in trouble.

I reached the end of the pit straight and, as soon as I touched the brakes for Copse Corner, the car suddenly snapped into a spin. My immediate impression was that something went twang at the front of the came clear that the pit stops would pre- car and I was instantly out of control. In sent my best chance of moving ahead, actual fact, the team later discovered

that the left front wheel nut had come slightly adrift. The wheel had stayed in place because of the safety locking mechanism on the Williams but, eventually, the strain was too much and the wheel locating pegs finally sheared as I braked. Effectively. I had braking on just the right front wheel and that accounted for the sudden spin. The only good thing to be said was that it happened at Copse where there is a good run-off area, which allowed me to come to a halt without hitting anything. I was quite lucky in that respect.

The support from the crowd had been fantastic all weekend and they continued to cheer me as I walked back to the pits. Naturally I was extremely disappointed when I got out of the car but was relieved to be OK because the car came off the track very last. The disappointment of not winning descended swiftly.

My only wish was that misfortune could

have chosen to strike at a race other than the British Grand Prix. But, wherever the race may be, it is always very hard on the team and last weekend was no exception when it came to the tremendous amount of effort put in by every single member of Williams-Renault.

The good news was that Jacques won the race, but he now poses a threat in the championship. With Jacques taking his second win of the season and advancing his cause by another 10 points on a day when I scored none at all, the championship is much more open. The gap between us has been reduced from 234 points to 15.

The way things look at the moment, it's going to be either me or Jacques winning races between now and the end of the season. The points position can swing enormously during the remaining six races. starting in Germany on Sunday week. Although I'm confident that I can continue to win races, last Sunday made me appreciate once more that chance will play

Damon Hill Grand Prix Ltd.

race Liverpool in late bid for **Poborsky**

NICK DUXBURY

Flights from the North-west to Prague have never been so popular as Manchester United and Liverpool, long-time bitter rivals on the pitch, fight at the negotiating table for the signa-ture of the £3.4m-rated Karel Poborsky.

The Slavia manager, Jaromir Seterle, will meet Liverpool officials today and a United delegation tomorrow as the race hots up for the 24-year-old Slavia Prague midfielder, who played a crucial role in the Fech Republic advance to the final of Euro 96.

Slavia are in no hurry to part with Poborsky, who still has wo years of his contract to run, as they finalise their preparations for a European Cup campaign. However, money talks, especially in the Czech Republic, and it is understood Poborsky will leave.

United have long been favourites to snap him up, but Liverpool - having failed to tempt Patrik Berger, Poborsky's Czech team-mate, from Borussia Dortmund - made an unannounced appearance in Prague on Sunday in a bold attempt to prise the player from under United's noses.

Maurice Watkins, United's legal director had flown home the day before fully expecting to conclude a deal this week.

Liverpool are seeking advice from the Government, RUC and security forces before going ahead with pre-season games against Dundalk and the Belfast-based Linfield. Celtic have already cancelled their game against Dundalk and Manchester United are also reconsidering playing Por-

Blackburn Rovers could be about to show Alan Shearer that

micrship next season by making a £5m offer for Nick Barmby, the England midfielder, who faces strong competition at Middlesbrough with the arrival of Italy's Fabrizio Ravanelli and the Brazilian Emerson. Barmby at Blackburn is seen as a counter to Manchester United's attempts to unsettle the

£12m-rated Shearer. Tranmere Rovers are looking for a £1.2m fee for the defender Tony Thomas, who has joined Tottenham on a month's loan. Thomas, a right-back, has been out of contract for 16 months and is eager to play in the

higher divisions.
"We would be looking for a substantial fee for him," Frank Corfe, the Tranmere chairman, said. "I will be speaking to Alan Sugar during the coming weeks and if Spurs do decide to step up their interest, I know neither would wish to see the matter go to arbitration."

Peter Shilton is to team up with his former England and Nottingham Forest colleague, Trevor Francis, at Birmingham City as goalkeeping coach. Francis has also appointed the former Blues striker Bob Latchford as youth development officer. The ex-England striker, scored 68 goals in 160 League

appearances between 1968-73. Crystal Palace went Continental yesterday. Their first-choice red and blue-striped strip, manufactured by Adidas in a three-year deal worth £1.5m, is almost identical to that of Bayern Munich, while the allwhite second kit matches

Romario is to return to Spain after completing £5m deal with Valencia. The 30-year-old Brazilian World Cup striker left Barcelona last year com-plaining of homesickness to olay for Flamengo, but was unhappy about sharing the limelight at the Rio club with fellow they mean business in the Pre-international striker Bebeto.



Close quarters: England's Karen Smithies finds herself crowded out at Guildford yesterday

Edwards shines in stalemate

er settle.

JOHN COLLIS reports from Guildford

New Zealand 362-5 dec & 219-4 dec England 271 & 225-8 Match drawn

An enterprising declaration by New Zealand on Sunday evening, holding out the carrot of a reachable target to England, set the stage yesterday for an in-France's change of colours. triguing finale to a tour that, at Test level had seen neither side able to take the advantage.

> In the 22nd encounter between the two countries. New Zealand were still searching for their first win. And the stage was indeed an attractive one - the tree-fringed club ground beneath the cathedral, with ranks of marquees in place

for Surrey's visit tomorrow, under a cloudless sky.

In the first innings, England batted all Saturday and scored 242 for 8, so they knew that the necessary 311 required an extra gear. They started briskly enough, but lost three wickets in scoring 39. The bonus at this stage was another cameo innings of great promise by England's youngest ever debutante. 16-year-old Charlotte Edwards. Her batting will surely serve England as well as Huntingdon for many years.

More than cameos, however, were going to be required lower down the England order after a necessary period of caution. For a time, it seemed possible that the extent of England's ambitions was simply to deny the tourists that maiden victory.

In the afternoon, a stand of substance gradually developed between Sue Metcalfe anchoring the innings and the enterprising Jane Smit. The run-rate was clawed back, but the New Zealand captain, Sarah Illing-worth, kept changing the per-

looking for any flaws in the flat wicket, and England could nev-The off-spin of Catherine Campbell was a particular nuisance to the home side - Smit was tucked up trying to cut, Debbie Stock misread the turn and Metcalfe, after some stern application, saw the ball trickle on to her stumps. It was an

might even have nursed England to victory. Faced with defeat, it has been known for first-class coun-

unjust end to a knock that

mutation of her six bowlers,

ties to hoist the white flag. Indeed, points for a draw have been reintroduced to stiffen sinews on an otherwise hopeless last afternoon. But cricket is far too precious to these players for

any such capitulations.
There was now nothing negative about England's desire for a draw - the last hour saw some stirring backs-to-the-wall stuff, with the rare loose ball still being treated forcefully, while New Zealand tried hard to cajole two more wickets from the

In the final stages, all but two or three fielders were within sledging distance of the bat, but Suzanne Redfern and Clare Taylor survived heroically. The scorecard shows yet another draw, but this had been an enthralling, hard-fought and positive end to the series.

Gorringe said that, if necessary, the buildozers could wait.

for the tie to be held on the No 1

court," he said, before adding cautiously: "But we would have

"It is not out of the question

question of a snub."

Drechsler has to pull out of German team

long jump champion, has what will be his last title-chaspilled out of Germany's team ing season. for the Olympic Games in At-lanta because she has not sufficiently recovered from a torn knee ligament.

The ligament has healed. but the surrounding muscles, were too weak for the former East German athlete to perform well. "I'm really disap-pointed that I won't be in it's not my style to go into something if I'm not 100 per cent fit and can't give my all." She picked up the injury in

May, a few days after returning from a training camp in Portugal, and was forced to pull out of several key meetings including last month's European Cup. Drechsler said her target was now next year's World Championships. Linford Christie, who only

recently decided to take part, was defended by the British Athletic Federation yesterday over his choice of flight to the Olympics.

They dismissed the sugges-tion that he had snubbed the official carrier, Delta, by using British Airways. "Athletes have been arriving at the holding camp in Tallahassee in dribs and drabs," the BAF spokesman, Tony Ward, said. "It's not as if we came out here in one great party, with everyone wearing team blaz-ers. Linford made his own

travel arrangements - and as it burned out it was a wise *The group of us who came on Delta the same day were late taking off for Atlanta and missed our connection to Tal-lahassee. As far as we are con-

cerned it was not an official

team flight and there is nopecome only the second man after Carl Lewis to defend the 100 metres title successfully, is staying in an apartment away British Olympic Association camp at Florida State University, but will train with

Earlier Christie promised to Prix.

I started enjoying athletics again at the beginning of the year and I will emoy it even more here," Christie said. You mays are more concerned about if than me. I'm here aren't I? And I think I'm in good shape. There is still some speed work to be done. But it's too late to start worrying. It

won't change anything." Jonathan Edwards is doing the same, Liz McColgan is preparing 180 miles away in Gamesville, while Sally Gunnell has plumped for a South Carolina base.

"Every athlete has to prepare in the way he or she thinks best." Ward said.
"When we move into Allanta. everyone will stay in the Olympic village." Gunnell, the defending

400m hurdles champion who broke down in her last race in Lausanne a fortnight ago with an inflamed Achilles tendon, has completed two track sessions after resting for

a week.
Sally is in some pain, but has been told to expect that through the Games," Ward said. "She has done the sessions so far that she wanted. including hurdling, and is lett-

ing quite confident.
What will encourage her also is the way she was flowing like the old Sally in that race in Switzerland before breaking down."

Kelly Holmes, who has been pondering what to run in Atlanta, will do the 800m and then decide whether to also compete in the 1500m later, according to the team manager, Verona Elder, Holmes won a World Championship bronze in the two-lap event Christie, who is bidding to last season and a 1500m silver, but this summer has often looked more impressive over the shorter distance.

Du'aine Ladejo, the Eurocovered from the stomach complaint which forced him to pull out when ready to start in last week's London Grand

Britain pin faith on outsider

In the past 40 years Britain has won only one medal in wrestling at the Olympics – a bronze by Noel Loban in 1984. not exactly the most im-

pressive of records. At Barcelona in 1992. Calum McNeil funder 68 kiloprams freestyle category), who

lost both his bouts and did not reach the final rounds, was Britain's lone competitor. In Atlanta, Britain's poor tradition is expected to contime with only one person qualifying. Amarjit Singh, 26, from Birmingham is in the un-

der-130kg freestyle category but he only made it via a wild Singh is not, however, a complete no-hoper. He was 11th last time he competed in Atlanta, at last year's World

Championships, and was ninth at the European Championships in Budapest in March. Robin Tomlinson, Britain's wrestling national develop-

SPORT-BY-SPORT GUIDE . 176 8: Wrestling

ment officer, said: "If Singh gets a good draw he could make it quite far in the competition". Bruce Baumgartmer (the

current 130kg freestyle Olympic champion from the US) and Mahmut Demir (Turkey) are two of the leading medal contenders and Singh's biggest dangers.

The Russians have a very strong overall team and in Alexander Karelin - twice Olympic champion in the under 130kg Greco-Roman category - is probably the best all-round wrestler in the world today. If he retains his title, he will equal the Olympic record of three wrestling gold medals.

Tom Chesshyre

Women poised for quick sand debut

over nets on beaches for decades, but beach volleybail took off in earnest with tour-

The sport is making its terpart in that each team has just two players.

The court size is the same as for indoor volleyball (nine metres x nine metres on each side of the net), as is the height of the net (2.24m). The first team to score 15 points wins the match, and the

per match in the Olympics. In ractical terms, the players need to be expert allrounders to cope with the demands of each having to

SPORT-BY-SPORT **GUIDE**

cover a much larger area of the

Britain will be represented this summer by the pairing of Audrey Cooper and Amanda

Glover in the women's event. They will be one of 18 teams from 13 countries taking part. and will be ranked 12th. The Brazilians are current-

ly ranked No 1 in the world, and will be sending two teams to compete in the women's event, while the Americans will be represented by three women's teams. These five will share the position of

Nick Harris

way the whole tour would be who has lost his position and re-Rugby League scrapped," Arthurson said. fuses to recognise Super League. DAVE HADFIELD

The chairman of the Australian Rugby League, Ken Arthurson. has accused the British Super League's chief executive, Maurice Lindsay, of wanting to scrap this autumn's tour and to merge the game with rugby union. Great Britain are due to play

Papua New Guinea, Fiji and New Zealand, but Arthurson says that the only way the tour can be made viable is by play-

TODAY'S

NUMBER:

78,416

The record crowd for any

sports event at New Jersey's

Giants Stadium who watched

Brazil's Under-23 Olympic

football team beat a Fife

WC.N All-Stars side 2-1. Be-

beto and Roberto Carlos

scored for Brazil; Jürgen Klins-

THE INDEPENDENT

CRICKET

LINES

International

0891 881 485

All Counties

News and Results

0891 525 075

Derbyshire: 0891 525 370

Durham 9891 525 371

Essex 0891 525 372

Tour Line

mann for the All Stars.

"The crazy thing is that if his News Limited controllers would let him he could still turn the

champion Kangaroos." The New Zealand Rugby League president, Graham Carden, is to fly to Britain next week to finalise arrangements for the tour. Lindsay, who is also chairman of Super League's international board, insisted yesterday that it will go ahead as planned.

whole thing into a huge success by playing the ARL's world

He called Arthurson's com-"I believe if Maurice had his ments "carping from someone

Football

Lindsay accused of plotting union merger

"We will include in our tour an historic first visit by a full tour side to Fiji, as we believe in genuine international expansion. That is what all member countries want, and under Ken Arthurson's previous international chairmanship there was no such ambition."

Arthurson also accused Lindsay of wanting to see a merger between league and union. "We are seeing Maurice for what he is - a man whose ambition is to see rugby league die at the hands of rugby union," he said.

Portsmouth are gwing thats to the Old-ham striker Damen Beckford, 29, and the 20-year-old Sheffield Wednesday

Involved prayer Maint Cutest.

LEFA BRISTOTO CLP: Group one: Asborg (Den)
4 Calbondie (N N) 0. Group three: Onthro Saut)
4 Mentor Brank (Slock) 1. Group siz: Sege18 Seak (Croa) 2 Stade Remass (n) 1; Orgyte
15 (Swe) 3 Hapoel Tel Awa (an) 0. Group savand Amalysing (Tun) 2 Front Volgegraf (Pas) 1.

Friendly: Canada 1 (De Rosano) Portugal
Olympic XI 1 (Catado) (at Varsity Stadium,
Toronto).

midfield player Mark Guest.

"It's what his masters want and it's no co-incidence that it is Sky television trying to destroy the historic Five Nations' series by isolating England. Nobody should forget that the contracts which bind the Rugby Football League and the Rugby Football Union are with the same News Limited organisation, and for similar durations. Mr Lindsay has both sports primed for a merger that nobody wants."

Arthurson stood down re-

cently as executive chairman of the ARL, but it is clear that taking a less active role will not end his war of words with Lindsay.

fence during the Toronto IndyCar Grand Prix on Sunday. A race marshall was also killed by debris from the accident. Kros-

noff is the first IndyCar driver to die as a result of injuries sustained in a race

a least of mythes socialities in a reasonal since 1973.

TORONTO RIDYCAR RACE (Toronto, Can, Sueday) Leading positions: J.A. Fersonatics (Med. Los-Honda, 93 lags completed, 97-598/mgh evenings speed (157-11 kph); 2 A Zarrard (cf. Reynard-Marcadas, 93; 3 B Rahasi (US) Reynard-Mercadas, 93; 5 P Taryo, (Can) Persian-Mercadas, 93; 6 B Herta (US) Reynard-Mercadas, 93; 7 C Pittopisis (Bra) Lole-Ford, 93; 3 J Vesser, US) Reynard-Honda, 93; 9 R Egotton (US) Reynard-Honda, 93; 9 R Egotton (US) Reynard-Ford, 93; 10 S Pruett (US) Lole-Ford, 93; 11 K Bandall Ergin Reynard-Ford, 92; 12 M Gugelman (Br) Reynard Ford, 92; 12 E Reynald (US) Lole-Mercadas, 90; 18 J Krostoff US) Roynard-Toyota, 89, caratr, 13 G de Ferran (Br) Reynard-Honda, 93; 19 S Goodyear (Can) Reynard-Ford, 89; 20 P J Jones (US) Eagle-Toyota, 89.

MORLO 2000: CHAMPHONSHIP (Horizonta, Brazil, Stunday) Ninth round: First race leading positions: 1.5 Events (Belt Honds; 2.1 Vohland (USI Manasak; 3.6 Bernets (Belt Honds; 2.1 Vohland (USI Manasak; 3.6 Bernets (Belt Honds; 4.7 Demans (Fri Varnahz; 5.9 Bester (Belt Honds; 6.4 Bertohni (RI Yamahz; 5.9 Bester (Belt Honds; 5.7 Bester) (Fri Varnahzir; 5.8 Bester Overall on day: 1.5 Bester (Belt) Honds (Seet) (Pornall St.) World Championship standings: 1.8 Novels 300: 2.5 Bester (21: 6 Demans 1.9. World Championship standings: 1.8 Novels 300: 2.5 Bester 15:1; 6 Demans 1.9. 15:4; 5 Bester 15:1; 6 Demans 1.9. 16:4; 6

A fitth person died yesterday from in-juries suffered on Sunday in the Inter-Nations Cup rally-cross event, near Alencon, France, when a car went out of control and flew into a crowd of spec-

Rughy League
ARI, PREAEPSHIP (home team listed first):
Brishame Broncos 24 Newcastie 19.

SPORTING DIGEST

since 1973.

Motocross

Motor racing

Chris Gorringe, Wimbledon's chief executive, said yesterday that "it is not out of the question" for Britain's Davis Cup tie with Egypt to be played on the No 1 court at Wimbledon in September.

African Zone Group One, and All England Club.

molished to make way for a new

to consider it carefully from our angle and we would need a formal request from the LTA Britain must beat Egypt to [Lawn Tennis Association] begain promotion to the Eurofore we could consider it." Whether the LTA would agree to playing the tie at Wimbledon is still debatable. It

No 1 Court could host Cup

David Lloyd, the Davis Cup captain, and Tim Henman are keen to hold the match at the might prefer the tie to be staged at Devonshire Park, East-No 1 court is about to be debourne, where they have spent vast sums improving the venue.

7-6 3-5 6-3; H Dreekmann (Ger) bt J Golmand (Fr) 6-3 6-2; S Bruguern (Sp) bt C-U Staeb (Ger) 7-8 6-4. NASOYA GRAND TOURNAMENT (Japan) Ninti reasuria Gerandi Toureniarelli (Jepen) Minth dey of 15: Toutesundes (Juyo) (non 5, leas 4) bi Kushimaum (3-6); Kotonyu (6-3) bi Riso (5-4); Shilashima (5-4) bi Higonoum (6-3); Kotobeopu (4-5) bi Assiroweita (3-6); Ograthila (5-4) bi Keniko Disebitolo (4-5); Hereanoshima (5-4) bi Keniko (5-4); Garyu (6-3) bi Naziroško (4-5); Tochmoneta (~6 t~4.)
HALL OF FAME CHAMPIONISHEPS (Newport,
Rinode Island) Sami-Rusis: N Pereira (New) bt
L Paes (Ind.) 6-4 6-2; G Stafford (SA) bt D Nestor (Carl) 6-2 6-2. Flast; Pereira bt Stafford 4-6 6-4

FED CLF (VIND Dal Mar., Chile) Group Two play-off: Crostle bt Chile 5-0.

LEADING ATP MERY'S RAMICINGS: 1 P Sampres (US) 4,350pt; 21 Nature (Au) 2,588; 3 A Agossi (VS) 3,377; 4 Is see (Au) 2,588; 3 A Agossi (VS) 3,377; 4 Is see (Au) 2,588; 3 A Charg (US) 3,162; 6 Y Katelvikov (FLS) 3,062; 7 6 Nanisavic (Coro) 2,753; 6 R Krajock (Noth) 2,589; 9 J Courter (US) 2,373; 10 Termes (Sevil 2,273; 6 Se ST Hermann 1,005; 72 G Rusedolo 671; 1A7 C Willowson 290; 185; D Sapolard 218; 189 M Petchey 215; 221 L Milligan 178; 276 M MocLagan 129; 288 C Beetrier 120. 6-4); Garyu (6-3) ti, Asarosho (4-5); Tochsmalia, 4-5) ti, Kolosioniauma (3-4); Kylosiosiama (4-5) ti, Misugasso (2-7); Namunoimana (3-6) ti, Konshino (3-6); Tembel (4-7) ti, Destri, (3-6); Alamosiuma (6-3) ti, Kotonowsko (4-5); Tembelssog (2-7) ti, Alamosiuma (1-8); Takastonia (3-4) ti, Minspolina (3-6); Massyama (3-6) ti, Alamosiuma (3-6); Massyama (3-6) ti, Cosmouma (4-5); Kalo (7-2) ti, Massestimanu (6-3); Alamosiuma (3-1) ti, Kotonosiuma (4-5); Takanohama (8-1) Assinyutaka (4-5). Tennils

Like Milligan flies into Manchester today for the Manchester Challenger staning today having moved to 217 on the
ATP world rankings—his highest-ever position. The 19-year-old Mildlesex player who reached the third round at
Wimbledon, siso made a successful debut for his country in a Davis Cup match
against Granta this weekend. As a result of his recent improvement, Milligan is seeded sixth in this week's
tournament at West Didsbury.

NAMACHESTER CHALLENGER SEEDINGS (West
Didsbury, starting today): 1 C Witomson
(GB); 2 D Norman (Belt; 3 D Saspard (GB); 4
Norman (Belt; 5 P Transport (Alus): 6 L Milegan (GB): 7 C Haggard (SA); 8 N Belt (Br).

MERCEDES CUP (Subtigant) First rounds G

Beccher 120. LENDING ATP MEZIS-MONEY WINNERS: 1 Y Kade-nikov (Rug) \$1,467,008 (LSP1,528); 2 T Muster (Aut) 1,102,191: 3 R Najisak (Neth) 1,092,311: 4G Nearhard (Chos) 1,097,400: 5 P Sempora (RS) 821,422; 8 M Chang (US) 733,766; 7 M Rosset (Swg) 715,514; 8 B Becker (Gar) 694,657; 9 M Woodforde (Aus) 683,952; 10 J Hasek (Swd) 674,753.

TODAY'S FIXTURES Football

UBFA CUP Prefici down v Yojvodine (FRIENDLY: Shelbo

Rugby Union
THRO STUDENT WORLD CUP Semi-timble:
France v Argentine (L.D); South Minza v Scotland
(2.30) (both games at University of Pretoda). Other sports
TEXTS: Man's Improved
Manchester.

WINDSOR 6.30: 1. SNABANAZ U Recht 8-12 ton; 2. Elly Fleetfoot 4-1; 3. Monty 9-1. 8 rad, 4, 7. (W Mult). Totas £1.70; £1.20, £1.30. DF: £2.20. CSF: £3.93. NRs: Domentes, North-

em Trei. 7,00: 1. DANCING DROP (Pat Eddery) 5-4 tav, 2. Princess Topez 33-1; 3. Inflation 4-1. 10 tan. 1, 1%. (R Harmon). Totac £2.30; £1.10, £3.50, £1.30. DF: £22.40. CSF: £33.85, Tno: £26.10.

NR: Danegold

rae, 3, 13. (C Thornton), Toke: £1.70; £1.30, £1.80. DF: £1.60. CSF: £3.70.

colt's trainer, William, said yes-

terday: "Shaamit worked nicely at the weekend and is in good form. He will work again in mid-week and once more at the weekend and then all being well will have a blow some time next week." Shaamit has not been seen out since his Epsom victory, missing the Irish Derby and Echose Stakes with a foot injury. Pat Eddery had been booked to ride him in the Eclipse but no decision has been made regarding riding arrangements for Ascot.

gan (Go); 7 C. naggjatu (SV), o in Belliu (par BRICEDES CUP (Studdynit) First round: (ando (Sp) bl. Younes El Aymaou (Mor); 6-4 6 6-4; A Chesnolov (Rub) br F Mediger (Br) 6 6-7 6-3; 1 Knosleo (Hun) bt T Cerbonel (Sp) 3 6-4; M Goelliner (Cer) bt A Cherhassov (Fluin 3 7-6; Glusten (Br) bt L Burgsmusher (Ger EVENING RACING RESULTS

7.30; 1. DOURLE BLUFF (Martin Dwyer)
7-1; 2. Special Dawn 4-1; 3. Rokeby Bowl
11-1, 7 ran. 11-8 fav Freedom Flame (4th).
2, 2½; 0 Raking), Tote £5.80; £2.20, £2.80.
DF: £12.00. CSF: £32.48. Tricast: £277.19.

WOLVERHAMPTON 8,45: 1. DAYVILLE (1 Spraice) 5-2 fav; 2. Marting 3-1; 3. The Wyendotte fan 9-1. 8 ran, 6. rá. (R Charton). Tota: 52.60; 51.20, 51.90, 52.20. DF: 53.90, CSF: £10.09. 4-5 far; 2. Ballos 3-1: 3. Sister Kit 8-1. 5

Shaamit, the Derby winner, is still on course for a crack at the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes at Asox on Saturday week. Maureen Haggas, wife of the 4-1 Shaamit, 5-1 Swain, 11-2 Classic Cliche, 10-1 Strategic Choice.

Pentire has hardened to 3-1 with Coral for the King George after the Irish Oaks flop Lady Carla was removed from ante-post lists yesterday. Classic Clicke, winner of the Gold Cup at the Royal meeting, has been supported and is 11-2 from S-1 after one bet of £8,000 to £1,000. Coral's betting: 3-1 Pentire,

12-1 Halling, Farasan & Oscar Schindler, 16-1 Singspiel, 20-1 Glory Of Dancer & Luso, 25-1 bar.

People have been hitting balls

naments in California in the early Eighties. Olympic debut in Atlanta and differs from its indoor coun-

teams change ends every five points. There is only one game

:No 9: Beach volleyball

BRATISH TEAM: A Cooper and A Grocer.

Glamorgan 0891 525 373 Gloucs. 0891 525 374 Hampshire 0891-525.375 Kent 0891:525-376 Landshire 0891 525-377 Leics. 0891 525 378 Middlesex 0891 525 329 Northants 0891 525:380 Notts 0891 525 381 Semerset 0891 525 382 Survey (1891 525 383 Sussex 18891 525 384 Warwicks, 40891 525 385 Worcs. 20891 525 386 Yorkshire 9 0891 525 387

Basebball
AMSRICAN LEAGILE: Deboit 4 Soston 6; Kansas
Cat 2 Chicago Cubs 3; Milveuvice 5 Torona 7
(10 Innings); Minnesota 5 Cleveland 4; Daldand
9 Teas 1: Seattle 8 Californa 0; Battimore 1
New York Yankees 4.
MATIONAL LEAGUE: Chicago White Sox 6 St. Louis
7; Cancinna 7 Potsburgh 6; Montreat 5 Philacetphin 2; Adente 15 Florida 10; New York Mess 5
Houston 7 (10 Innings); New York Mess 10 Houston 3; Colorado 8 San Deign 4; Los Angeles 0
San Francisco 6.

to complete his bowing state at cut s, but had to employ a runner when he betted in the closing stages of the match. He will miss today's important midwesk Sunday league focuse against borishing at Northampton. Northamptonshire have named a 12-man squad for today with Mal Loye and Neil Mallender added in the team that lost Saturday's

The British forward Kevin Bishop has put

a promising American college career on hold to play for Lelcester in the Budweiser Leegus next season. Bishop, who is 6ft 10in and weighs more than 17st, has now opted to complete his business stud-ies at Loughborough University.

Baseball

Cricket India returned home from their England tour yesterday without their belea-guered captain, Mohammed Azhand-din, who stayed in London to receive treatment for a shoulder injury. Azhand-

din has been widely criticised for fail-ing to take India to the World Cup final on the subcontinent earlier this year and for the 1-0 Test series loss to England. India also lost the one-day series 2-0. India also lost the one-day series 2-0. Northamptonshire's Curty Ambrose could face a two week lay-off after suf-fering a hamstring injury during Satur-day's Benson and Hedges Curp final against Lancashire. Ambrose managed to complete his bowling stint at Lord's, that had to semilor a groner when he

added to the team that lost Saturday's 50-over match by 31 runs.

Costcutter Cap Semi-final

Did not but: |RC | Williams, | Lews, | 14 M

Avers.
Bowling: Gough 10-1-36-2; Suberwood
9-3-40-1; White 7-0-42-0; Hardey 8-1-62-0;
Stemp 11-1-46-2; Beven 10-1-51-0.
YORKSHIRE

D Bough & Symonds b Lews.

M D Monon & Symonds b Lews.

M P Youghen & Lynch b Lews.

One day HARROGATE: Glossess

Cloudestershire won loss

M A Lunch sun out ...

SLOUCESTERSHIRE M.G.N. Windows C. White b Sterop.

*A J Winght at Bibliogy b Stamp T H C Hancock c Stemp b Severe

Optripic A 1 (community for the property of th PusSi; 2 Lifestorem (15-30); 3 Basin (15-25).
MAJOR LEAGUE SOCIES: New York, New Jessey
MetroStars 3 Dellas Burn 2: Nersas Chy We 2 Col-oratio Rapids 0; New England Revolution 2 Colum-tion 1; DC Linted 1. Tampa Bay Muthry 0.
SUMBITION MATCHES (at Glants Stadium, NJ: MUSS All Stars match: East Conference 3 West Conference 2, Brazil Linder-23 2: "Bebeto 47, Roberto Carlos TB) Plas World All Stars 1 (Nins-mann 65).

GOT MICHELOS CHAMPIONS IP (Milliamorburg, Virginia) Leading front-round scores (US unitess stated): 265 6 406 kg. 272 M Bradiny 66 67 289 17 August 06 58 69 68 272 M Bradiny 66 67 70 68; 77 108; 70 70 65 67; F Puth, 65 69 59 68 273 O Pride 67 68 67 71 274 7 Amous 67 57 72 68; D Edwards 67 70 67 70, 275 0 Brosto 69 67 70 70 Hampoon 68 68 70 67 68; M McCumber 88 67 70 70 167 71 67; B McCalmor 57 70 67 70 67 9 M Colored 68 68 70 67 0 Hampoon 68 68 70 70 70 0 G 70 68 68 68; K Calenseite 57 69 70 70; D Ggm 68 70 67 K Calenseite 57 69 70 70; D Ggm 68 72 65 72. 68 72 65 72.
SENIOR PLAYERS' CHARPIONSRIP (Demborn, Michigan) Final scores: 276 R Flory 71 65 65 73 . 277 H Inven 70 67 69 71 . 280 8 Barnes. 74 70 67 69. 281 J Neder 72 74 67 68. J McGer 70 68 69 74. 282 G Geben 68 72 72 70, 8 Charles 67 12 70 78.

The American rookie driver, Jeff Kros-noff, 31, was killed whe his car spun out of control and carry-neeled into a CRICKET SCORBOARD

> *D Byes c Leve b Boden C White c Williams b Alexs..... Bouling Leas 9.1-1-74-4, Sucer 8-1-53-2: Avens 9-0-41-1: Bad 9-0-23-0; Augme 9-0-47-3; Symonds 2-0-8-0

M G Bevan e Symonds b Alleyne A McGrath e Wallams b Boden

Septem J D Bond and A Carlan. Women's Test Fra! tay of loar GENELDFORD: Martch drawn.

NEW ZEALAND - First lunings 362 for 5 dec IN Flanck 97. S From Sc. Director, 65. E December 62s. ENGLAND - Rest families 271 (1372) 57. Pyer 4-37). NEW ZERLAND - Second lenings 219 for 4 doc # Druce 112 or

FNGLAND - Second Innings Emission – section Miles
J Britis of Ringworth & Wiches
C Edwards of Ringworth & Brown
B Damels of Campbell & Withes
S Metalife & Campbell
W Smatnes of Brown & Drumm.
11 South & Franchism *1 Sanit 5 Ca K Leng c Sub b Pryer.

D Stock b Campbel ...

S Rectem not out

C Taylor not out Fait 1-15, 2-31, 3-39, 4-66, 5-129, 6-140, 7-157, 3-150. Souting Withers 16-4-41-2 Campbell 32-7-96-2: Flyer 27-12-41-1: Brown 6-3-7-1; Harris 13-6-24-0: Drumm 12-4-24-1.

Today AXA Equity & Law League (가 **라**. HARROGATE: Curtam - Lecesseshire (11.0)

OLYMPIC GAMES GUIDE free with The Independent this Saturday

COUNTDOWN TO THE OPEN: No 22nd appearance for five-times winner while Ballesteros looks to his younger self for inspiration

Injury forces Watson's withdrawal

RICHARD EDMONDSON reports from Royal Lytham

One of the most celebrated marriages in the land was terminated yesterday. Tom Watson, a five-times winner of the Open and a visitor to the tournament for the last 21 years, withdrew from the 125th version, which begins on Thursday, with a shoulder injury.

Watson, who despite his 46 vears won the Memorial Tour-nament at Muirfield Village this year and was quietly fancied to add to his eight majors at Royal Lytham, flew in to Scotland for practice with a slightly damaged rotator cuff. When the injury worsened, he was forced to pull out and he returned to the United States yesterday for treatment.

No American golfer has returned to his homeland with an Open trophy collected at Royal Lytham since Bobby Jones in 1926. In the interim, there have been seven Opens on this section of the Lancashire coast and latterly the links have been the domain of Seve Ballesteros. As a 22-year-old, the Spaniard introduced his genius with victory here in 1979, when he earned champion. He also succeeded nine years later.

Ballesteros's game is compromised by chronic back problems these days. In an effort to recreate the style of days past. Seve has been studying a tuition ural swing the sport has ever some are anticipating the will miss Tom Watson.

Valuations

o. 3040. Tuesday 16 July

ACROSS

Young setter, say, secures help without financial

4 Move slowly on road south

10 Bachelor in two shades of

purple (5) 12 His fun's spoilt by cold-

blooded type (7)
13 Tire a touch getting in coal

say, endlessly (7) 14 One bit of business is what

you aim at (5) 15 Choice English lesson (8)

obligation (4-2)

like a crab? (8)

We pride ourselves on val-ing jewellery as fairly as possible. No overblown

seen. He has been watching himself. "When I watch the film of the Open wins, I see if I can pick up any details I'm not doing now to see if I can inspire myself," he said vesterday. "I'm proud to see what I did before."

When Seve was previously at Royal Lytham, his greatest problem was scything recovery shots out of parking areas. Now he worries about someone else with a scythe. "I'm sad that I can't be youthful for ever but no-body can do that. Everyone is going to die, that is the only truth in life so you can't do anything about it." he said. "You just have Norman remains the world to take it. When you watch the films it gives you confidence to go and try to win again. I know it's difficult. I know it's eight years later and my game at the moment is not as good as before,

but it is possible.
"The scoring I've had in the last few tournaments in Europe does not show the way I have been playing. I feel that I waste two or three shots in every round that I shouldn't. My game is not 100 per cent, but it's not as bad

majors and while he considers another is within reach, it is not the sobriquet of the car-park a view held by others. Coral champion. He also succeeded make him a 190-1 chance to win the tournament and as big as 6-4 merely to survive the half-

> With a rash of low scores in the qualifiers and yesterday's clear, sunny weather predicted

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acred as a perspaper with the Post (Mice.

short game," he said. "The short game, he said. The greens are small and everyone is going to miss a lot of greens. With the crosswinds, chipping is always going to be important."

Greg Norman envisages difficulties elsewhere. "I think this

is a great driver's course," he said. "Like any links course, you have to hit the fairway, and downwind you'd better be able

No 1 in the Sony rankings, even though his form has dipped after a promising start to the season. "The last six or eight weeks have not been very stellar at all," he said. "It has been a Jekyll and Hyde season for me."

Too often in majors, Norman's knuckles have become hairy in the closing stages, but, at 41, the desire to improve on his underachievement of just two majors remains. "I will get some juice by Wednesday and in the afternoon there will be a tingling in the belly and I'll know I am ready to go," he said. Before then, the Australian

will familiarise himself with a course he has not played com-petitively since 1979. "Seventeen is one of the best holes out there, a beautiful hole," he said. "John Daly said there are more bunkers down there than he has had ex-wives. And he missed them all." Not, howevvideo of perhaps the most nat- to hold for the rest of the week, er, as much as the tournament

of Value

realised. We charge just half a per cent - a very small cost

DOWN

Perhaps use diamonds in

Artless woman's popular

Perhaps unable to marry

holding liberal to be with-

Time for arithmetic exam?

different cities will take

Testing oral about a bit of

One receiving a plug for

knowledgement of debt

17 Feeling no male could be conscious (8) 19 A fault including a king's

gracefully (7)
22 A fuss about a US soldier's

24 Pull women into wood (5)

Monday's solution

movement (6)

anatomy is brisk (7)

energy (6)

9 Possibly parochial spice from Canterbury? (14)
16 29 could be holding ac-

Conspicuous success of two

information on upper-class

this garment (8)

out restraint (9)

3,2,9)

time (5)

firm (9)

greed (7)
18 Carefully select a worker's 21 Hit colonel having lied dis-



Nicklaus junior falls short again

Tim Glover watches a painful exit for a famous name at the Open qualifying

Not even Jack Nicklaus could the short third he hit an 8-iron turn the water into wine. After into the left bunker and took a nine holes the Golden Bear retreated to the clubhouse and emerged bearing a cup of water for his son, Gary. It had been hit his third into a bunker, hard work and it must have been came out with a sand wedge and as painful for the old man as it

The 27-year-old Gary Nicklaus, a professional for five years but thus far no prodigal, was attempting to qualify for the Open Championship for the fifth time and once again he was consigned to the role of spectator. Yester-day it was Jack who was doing the spectating as he, and other members of the Golden Bear's family, followed Gary's progress in the final qualifying round at St Annes Old Links.

On Sunday Gary had shot 68, four under par, but with only 13 places on offer for the field of 120 he needed another sub par score to secure a place in the 125th Open. The skyline at St Annes is dominated by a roller coaster called the Big One. Yesterday young Nicklaus, who normally receives invitations to tournaments, had his fair

share of ups and downs. At the second hole he three putted and took a bogey five; at

bogey four; at the fourth he drove into the rough, advanced his second shot a mere 10 feet, two putts later recorded a double bogey six. He went to the turn in 40 at which point Jack

administered the water. Gary promptly birdied the 10th but despite finishing with an eagle three at the 17th and a birdie four at the 18th his score of 73 meant that he would not be sharing a locker with his father in the clubhouse at Roval Lytham. "I got myself in a hole early in the round and I could not get out of it," Gary said. He was asked if it bothered him, playing golf en famille. "I'd rather have dad watching than

not," he replied. At the same course Richard Boxali, who left the Scottish watching golf on TV." Open at Carnoustie on Saturday with an 85, equalled his record 65 of the first round. This will be his 14th Open and the 11th time he has qualified. "My intention," Boxall said, "is to gain exemption for next year and not put myself through are chasing your score and you

could not even have a drink af-ter the first round." He made Sherry, who turned profession-and it was wonderful." drinking man's golfer, was heading for his best finish in the Open at Royal Birkdale five years ago when he broke a leg during the third round.

Christy O'Connor Jnr, well placed after a 69 on Sunday, walked in in mid round yesterday, complaining of tennis el-bow. "I could not hold the club," he said. At Formby Gordon Sherry, who complained of a bad back in the first round. shot 76 and headed for Kilmarnock. "I'm having two weeks off," Sherry said. "I shan't watch the Open on television. I hate

Following a 73 on Sunday, the 6ft 8in Sherry had physiotherapy and yesterday he said: "I had no pain at all. It was just one of those rounds." He started bogey, bogey, "After that," he said," you this again. You can't relax. I go for everything. The real dam-

up for it last night. Boxall, the al after missing the cut in the Masters at Augusta National, hid his disappointment well. This was a crushing blow.

Ricky Willison surpassed himself at Fairhaven, following a 69 with a 65 on a course with a par of 74. Willison had a hole in one at the 10th which measures 226 yards. He hit a twoiron. "It went for ever. I was saving please get on the green and then the ball disappeared." It was his 14th hole in one.

When Willison won the English Amateur Championship at Southport in 1990 he practised by hitting golf balls off the beach. "If you are not swinging well hitting shots off the sand will soon tell you." He spent Sunday night here honing his swing on the beach. Willison was seventh in the Irish Open at Druids Glen two weeks ago after which he said: "I want the dryness of the mouth and a dodgy stomach that

David Feherty, who jointly led the qualifiers at Formby, has reverted to the broomhandle putter. "My putting all year has been appalling, dreadful, cata-strophic." Feherty said. At Formby he shot 71, 69. "My putting has been a revelation." he said. "I feel I can hole out from everywhere.

Paul Eales, attached to Royal Lytham, came through at Fairhaven with a 69. A large crowd followed his progress and Eales, who went through qualifying only to miss the cut in the US Open at Oakland Hills, said: "I was embarrassed because I was playing so badly." He repaid the support by striking a spectator on the head at the 17th. The ball rebounded on to the green and Eales holed from nearly 30 feet for a birdie two. That's what you call local knowledge.

The Gary Player paradox,

Clubs plan legal action over ban

Rugby Union DAVID LLEWELLYN

Twickenham have found an unexpected ally as they strive to keep England in the Five Nations' Championship. Donald Kerr, the chairman of the English Professional Rugby Union Clubs (Epruc), last night warned of possible legal action on the part of the clubs if the other four unions succeed in expelling England from the Five Nations' Championship.

Kerr said: "The other four unions are currently operating, or attempting to operate. anti-competitive practices. They have formed a cartel to exclude England and we think that what they are doing is illegal. "Anti-competitive practice is

against the law both in the UK and in the European Union. We

are running businesses now and these guys fin the other four contact between clubs, and all unions] just don't seem to understand that you cannot dictate, you can't operate cartels. "I am sure if it goes much

further we will be asking the Office of Fair Trading to have a look at what they doing. "I think they have to recognise that the clubs are a beneficiary of the BSkyB agreement, and we feel we have to protect that situation. If they are trying to induce either Sky or the

RFU to break the contract then we are entitled to damages. From our point of view, no other broadcaster is prepared to put money into club rugby. How are we supposed to get a professional sport off the ground if no money is going to come into it? We believe the other unions are on very dan-

gerous ground. And if they go

the other various levels, they could be in serious hot water." The players are also begin-ning to show concern, Will Car-

ling said: "English rugby cannot survive without the Five Nations. The Five Nations' Championship has to be saved. It has been the foundation for the northern hemisphere for years. "We should have the Five Na-

tions and we should add to that. We should be bringing in Italy and everyone else. I was in France 10 days ago and there were players from all the countries there and they were saying we have to play the Five Nations. They want England in it."
There were conciliatory

noises from all four rival unions yesterday. France's president, Bernard Lapasset, said the door was still open to England, while

by the new RFU president, John Richardson, for urgent talks. However, the SRU said the situation was "beyond the 11th hour", and the RFU must come to an agreement "in a matter of days rather than weeks"

the Scottish Rughy Union issued a statement welcoming the call

if they were to be reinstated. To that end, Richardson last night issued a statement from Twickenham which opened the way for further talks.

It read: "I am pleased to note from the Scottish Rughy Union press statement that Scotland. Wales and Ireland have left the door open for further discussion. We are committed to, and value highly, the Five Na-

tions' Championship.
"The RFU's principal aim is to ensure the future well-being of English rugby and we believe that this includes being part of

the family of nations. On that hasis we are prepared to meet the other nations and consider ideas consistent with that aim." But the other four unions have insisted that until the malter is resolved England will remain in exile from the

Vernon Pugh, the Weish Rugby Union chairman, said last night: "We have discussed the Four Nations' tournament with the BBC and they have given us assurances that they have no difficulty with it at all."

tournament.

English players will be selected for the British Lions tour of South Africa next summer even if England do not par-ticipate in the Five Nations Championships. Ray Williams, the chairman of the tours committee, confirmed that the selection process will involve all the British and Irish unions.

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